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The confounding effects of high genetic diversity on the determination and interpretation of differential gene expression analysis in the parasitic nematode *Haemonchus contortus*

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Abstract: Differential expression analysis between parasitic nematode strains is commonly used to implicate candidate genes in anthelmintic resistance or other biological functions. We have tested the hypothesis that the high genetic diversity of an organism like *Haemonchus contortus* could complicate such analyses. First, we investigated the extent to which sequence polymorphism affects the reliability of differential expression analysis between the genetically divergent *H. contortus* strains MHco3(ISE), MHco4(WRS) and MHco10(CAVR). Using triplicates of 20 adult female worms from each population isolated under parallel experimental conditions, we found that high rates of sequence polymorphism in RNAseq reads were associated with lower efficiency read mapping to gene models under default TopHat2 parameters, leading to biased estimates of inter-strain differential expression. We then showed it is possible to largely compensate for this bias by optimizing the read mapping SNP allowance and filtering out genes with particularly high SNP rates. Once the sequence polymorphism biases were removed, we then assessed the genuine transcriptional diversity between the strains, finding ≥ 824 differentially expressed genes across all three pairwise strain comparisons. This high level of inter-strain transcriptional diversity not only suggests substantive inter-strain phenotypic variation but also highlights the difficulty of reliably associating differential expression of specific genes with phenotypic differences. To provide a practical example, we analyzed two gene families of potential relevance to ivermectin drug resistance; the ABC transporters and the ligand-gated ion channels (LGICs). Over half of genes identified as differentially expressed using default TopHat2 parameters were shown to be an artifact of sequence polymorphism differences. This work illustrates the need to account for sequence polymorphism in differential expression analysis. It also demonstrates that a large number of genuine transcriptional differences can occur between *H. contortus* strains and these must be

considered before associating the differential expression of specific genes with phenotypic differences between strains.



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May 17, 2019

Dear Dr Loukas,

Thank you for your consideration of our manuscript IJPara19_132 for publication in the International Journal for Parasitology entitled "*The confounding effects of high genetic diversity on the determination and interpretation of differential gene expression analysis in the parasitic nematode Haemonchus contortus*". We appreciate the positive evaluation of our manuscript and thank you and the referees for the constructive feedback provided. We submit a revised manuscript, together with a line-by-line response to the reviewers' comments

We hope the changes made to this section are satisfactory.

We thank you for considering this revised manuscript and hope it is now considered suitable for publication.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. S. Gilleard".

Prof John Gilleard



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Reviewer 1

We thank the reviewer for their very positive view and constructive feedback of the manuscript.

We have addressed the reviewers points as follows:

Reviewer comment 1: Abstract: lines 29-37. It is important to have some statement in here about what lifestage(s), age, sex, host, method of worm collection etc were used to ensure that it's a level playing field at the start - e.g. that you're not comparing MHco3 L3s that have been kept in a fridge for a year with adult female MHco10 straight out of an abomasum.

Response: Line 32 - We have inserted a comment describing the experimental samples to clarify the controlled nature of RNAseq experiment from the abstract onward. We also made some minor grammatical changes to the abstract to maintain its length below 300 words again.

Reviewer comment 2: Figure 2C, the labelling on the x axis could be clearer - i.e. leave more room between the labels

Response: We have condensed Figure 2C X-axis labels to increase the space between them as requested.

Reviewer 2

We have addressed the reviewers points as follows:

Reviewer comment 1: This interesting manuscript makes the case that simply using the default setting on the most commonly used suite of programs for the analysis of RNASeq data can lead to serious errors in the estimation of changes in gene expression between strains and isolates. The authors specifically looked at Haemonchus contortus, though presumably the point is also valid for many other parasites in which drug resistance, or another important biological variable, is a problem.

Response: We thank the reviewer for their positive comments

Reviewer comment 2: With such papers it is essentially impossible to judge the quality of the experimental approach; this is an excellent and reputable group so I would not expect there to be any problems.

Response: We thank the reviewer for their supportive comments

Reviewer comment 3: The authors cite several previous reports in their critique of the existing literature, however at least some of these use qPCR rather than RNASeq data, and so the criticism may not be valid. Would they expect qPCR to be equally prone to these artefactual differences between strains - perhaps not assuming that the primer sequences are conserved. If that were not the case it might be that the amplifications would fail? Some discussion of this point might be valuable.

Response: Line 391 – We understand the reviewer's point here and have added a comment to the Discussion section to make it more clear that we are suggesting high genetic diversity is a problem when conducting RNAseq experiments specifically.

Reviewer comment 4: This may be an odd statement after the previous point, but overall I found the discussion to be overlong and repetitive of points made elsewhere - it could be considerably shortened with no loss of impact.

We would prefer to retain the current Discussion as it draws together the key messages from the Results. The paper is quite technical in nature and a shortened high-level Discussion would make it difficult for readers to follow how the conclusions were supported.

Reviewer comment 5: The number of reads mapping to the H. contortus genome assembly seems a little low (60-70%, depending on strain). Did the authors check for host or bacterial contamination of their sequences?

Response: The mapping success rates of the samples we observed for all three strains were similar to mapping statistics of other *H. contortus* samples that we and others have worked with in the past

(~50-75% mapping success rates is typical for *H. contortus*). Further our map rates among the three triplicates of the same strain were very similar for all three strains, which reasonably suggests that there is no single triplicate that has a low mapping success rate because of contamination.

Reviewer comment 6: Some of the values on the axes of Fig 3 are rather small and faint, and may not reproduce well especially if they are reduced in size.

Response: We have increased the font size of the number labels on both axis of Figure 3 as requested.

*Reviewer comment 7: Though 'N' is defined in the Methods, this may be easy for the more casual reader to overlook. Given its central importance to the arguments in the manuscript, it may be worth restating what this value represents in the Results or Discussion, perhaps relating it to the observed level of polymorphism between *H. contortus* strains.*

Response: Lines 209, 213, 214 – We have redefined what N2, N5, and N10 represent when they are first mentioned in the Results. N2 and N5 were also redefined on Lines 411 and 412 of the Discussion section.

We hope the changes made to this section are satisfactory.

We thank you for considering this revised manuscript and hope it is now considered suitable for publication.

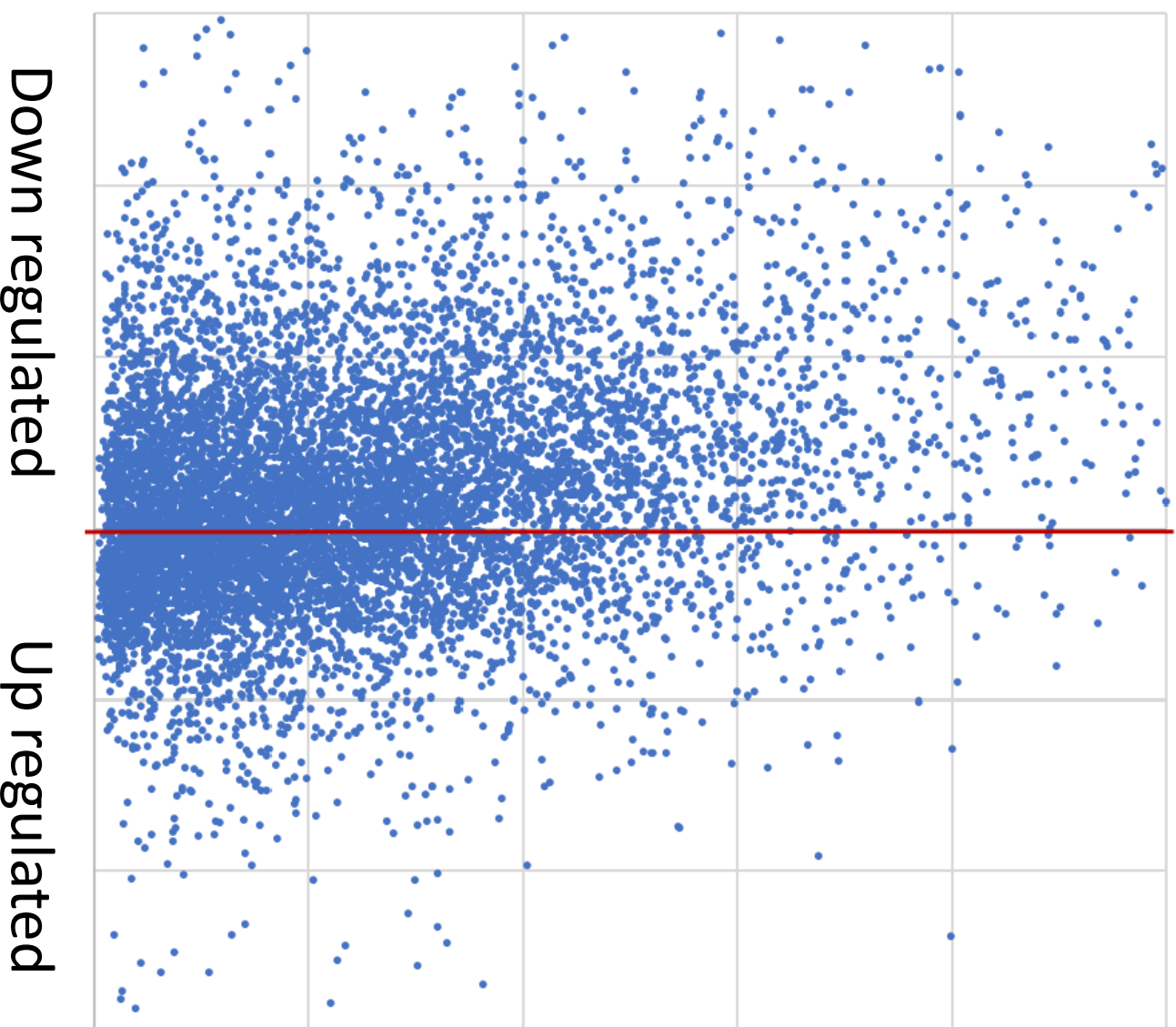
Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. S. Gilleard', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Prof John Gilleard

Artificial bias in differential expression calls due to sequence polymorphism

Increasing SNP rate
difference between strains



Paper Highlights

- Sequence polymorphism can confound RNAseq analysis in genetically diverse organisms due to read mapping biases
- Optimizing read mapping allowances and excluding highly polymorphic genes reduces differential gene expression analysis biases
- Genetically divergent strains of *H. contortus* have very high levels of inter-strain transcriptional diversity
- Interpretation of inter-strain differential gene expression needs to consider sequence polymorphism and overall transcriptional diversity

The confounding effects of high genetic diversity on the determination and interpretation of differential gene expression analysis in the parasitic nematode *Haemonchus contortus*

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Abstract

Differential expression analysis between parasitic nematode strains is commonly used to implicate candidate genes in anthelmintic resistance or other biological functions. We have tested the hypothesis that the high genetic diversity of an organism like *Haemonchus contortus* could complicate such analyses. First, we investigated the extent to which sequence polymorphism affects the reliability of differential expression analysis between the genetically divergent *H. contortus* strains MHco3(ISE), MHco4(WRS) and MHco10(CAVR). Using triplicates of 20 adult female worms from each population isolated under parallel experimental conditions, we found that high rates of sequence polymorphism in RNAseq reads were associated with lower efficiency read mapping to gene models under default *TopHat2* parameters, leading to biased estimates of inter-strain differential expression. We then showed it is possible to largely compensate for this bias by optimizing the read mapping SNP allowance and filtering out genes with particularly high SNP rates. Once the sequence polymorphism biases were removed, we then assessed the genuine transcriptional diversity between the strains, finding ≥ 824 differentially expressed genes across all three pairwise strain comparisons. This high level of inter-strain transcriptional diversity not only suggests substantive inter-strain phenotypic variation but also highlights the difficulty of reliably associating differential expression of specific genes with phenotypic differences. To provide a practical example, we analyzed two gene families of potential relevance to ivermectin drug resistance; the ABC transporters and the ligand-gated ion channels (LGICs). Over half of genes identified as differentially expressed using default *TopHat2* parameters were shown to be an artifact of sequence polymorphism differences. This work illustrates the need to account for sequence polymorphism in differential expression analysis. It also demonstrates that a large number of genuine

transcriptional differences can occur between *H. contortus* strains and these must be considered before associating the differential expression of specific genes with phenotypic differences between strains.

Keywords: *Haemonchus contortus*; Transcriptomics; RNAseq; Differential Expression; Ivermectin; Anthelmintic Resistance

1. Introduction

RNAseq has become the standard approach for the genome-wide analysis and quantification of gene expression across the life sciences (Conesa et al., 2016; Wang et al., 2009). Established sequence aligners used in RNAseq analysis pipelines, such as *TopHat2* and its faster successor *HISAT2* were developed, and their default mapping parameters set, primarily for use on vertebrate species such as humans, mouse, and zebrafish, which have relatively low levels of both intra- and inter-population genetic diversity (Baruzzo et al., 2017; Guryev et al., 2006; Lindblad-Toh et al., 2000; Wang, 1998). Further, until relatively recently, applications of RNAseq to non-vertebrate species were largely confined to laboratory strains of model organisms such as *Drosophila melanogaster* and *Caenorhabditis elegans*, which also have relatively low levels of genetic diversity (Andersen et al., 2012; Cingolani et al., 2012). Consequently, most publications make little or no acknowledgement of the potentially confounding effects of sequence polymorphism on the mapping efficiency of RNAseq reads and the calling of differentially expressed genes (Baruzzo et al., 2017). RNAseq analysis pipelines are generally applied to non-model organisms simply using established default parameters, with no consideration given the level and distribution of sequence polymorphism within, and between the strains or populations being compared (Antony et al., 2016; Croken et al., 2014; Edwards et al.,

2013; Fiebig et al., 2015; Papenfort et al., 2015). However, many taxa show high levels and complex patterns of intra-species genetic diversity (Blumenthal and Davis, 2004; Dey et al., 2013; Redman et al., 2015; Romiguier et al., 2014). This is a concern since standard RNAseq alignment benchmarking studies have shown that the performance of different sequence aligners varies with the genome complexity and levels of sequence polymorphism when using simulated sequence data (Baruzzo et al., 2017). However, no published experimental studies directly examine the effects of sequence polymorphism on differential expression analyses using commonly applied RNAseq analysis pipelines.

A good example of the application of RNAseq analysis to non-model organisms is for the investigation of differential expression of candidate genes potentially involved in anthelmintic drug resistance in parasitic nematodes (Dicker et al., 2011; El-Abdellati et al., 2011; Urdaneta-Marquez et al., 2014; Williamson et al., 2011; Xu et al., 1998). *Haemonchus contortus* is arguably the most established parasitic nematode model used for such studies (Gilleard, 2013). It has a good quality reference genome and has extremely high levels of sequence polymorphism (upwards of 5% SNP rates), both within and between strains or geographical isolates (Gilleard and Redman, 2016; Laing et al., 2013). Consequently, it is an excellent system in which to study the potentially confounding effects of sequence polymorphism on differential expression analysis. In this paper, we use three well characterized laboratory passaged strains of *H. contortus* to examine how differences in coding sequence (CDS) polymorphism rates, with respect to the MHco3(ISE) genome reference strain, affect read mapping and bias differential expression analysis. We show how these confounding effects can be reduced and demonstrate that, even when the effects of sequence polymorphism are minimized, there are still a large number of differentially expressed genes between these three strains. These results have important implications for the application of RNAseq analysis to many non-model organism species with high levels of genetic diversity.

2. Materials & Methods

2.1 *H. contortus* strains, sample preparation, and sequencing.

The MHco3(ISE), MHco4(WRS) and MHco10(CAVR) *H. contortus* strains have been previously characterised and are described in detail elsewhere (Laing et al., 2013; Redman et al., 2012, 2008). The MHco3(ISE) is susceptible to all main classes of anthelmintic and has been used as the reference genome strain (Laing et al., 2013). The MHco4(WRS) strain is derived from the White River Strain (WRS) that was isolated as an ivermectin resistant field isolate from South Africa (Van Wyk and Malan, 1988). The MHco10(CAVR) strain is derived from the Chiswick Avermectin Resistant Strain (CAVR) which was originally isolated as an ivermectin resistant strain as a laboratory contaminant of a field isolate from Australia (Le Jambre et al., 1995).

Three sets of 20 adult female worms were recovered on necropsy at 28 days post experimental infection from the abomasa of three different individual sheep for each *H. contortus* strain; MHco3(ISE), MHco4(WRS), and MHco10(CAVR). Each set of 20 adult females served as one of three biological replicates for RNAseq analysis for each strain. Adult worms recovered from the abomasum were rinsed and sexed in physiological saline at 37°C and then immediately snap frozen before total RNA was isolated from each pool of 20 worms using a standard Trizol protocol as described in Laing et al., (2011). RNA samples were assessed on a Bioanalyser 2100 (Agilent) and Illumina transcriptome libraries were prepared as previously described (Laing et al., 2011). Sequencing of transcriptome libraries was performed on an Illumina HiSeq platform to generate 100 bp paired-end reads.

2.2 Sequence quality control and read mapping.

Raw 100 bp reads were inspected using *FastQC* (Andrews, 2010) for overall dataset integrity and all reads were trimmed at the 5' end by ten bases. Fifteen bases were also trimmed from the 3' ends of all reads to remove low quality sequence characteristic of 3' tail ends. The post-trimmed 75 base-pair reads were used for mapping to the *H. contortus* MHco3(ISE) reference genome assembly (Laing et al., 2013) with *TopHat2* (Dobin and Gingeras, 2013). The assembly used is an improved version (N50 of 5.24 MB) of the original published *H. contortus* genome assembly (GenBank ID PRJEB506 - N50 of 83.29 kb (Laing et al., 2013)) and contains an expanded set of annotated gene models (<https://data.mendeley.com/drafts/4z6xv5j5zf>). Numerical identifiers of these additional gene models begin with HCOI_0500, and have not yet been submitted to online genomic resources (e.g. *Uniprot.org*).

TopHat2 was executed using the following parameter settings: *TopHat2 -N (#) --read-gap-length (%) --read-edit-dist (# + %) -I 40000 -r 200 -a 6 -g 1 --no-discordant --no-mixed --min-intron 10 --microexon-search --mate-std-dev 50 --library-type fr-unstranded ./reference.fasta trimmed_forward_reads.fastq trimmed_reverse_reads.fastq*. Only *-N* (specifying the number of SNPs per mapped read allowed by *TopHat2*), *--read-gap-length* (the allowed base count of any indels), and *--read-edit-dist* (the allowed combined base count of both *-N* and *--read-gap-length*) were adjusted throughout the experiment. Reads of all triplicates of all three populations were initially mapped with *TopHat2* using a scale of SNP (polymorphism) allowances from 2 to 10 SNPs (*-N*) per read with indel allowance (*--read-gap-length*) held constant at 3 bases.

138 Three different allowances for polymorphism were then subsequently chosen for further analysis:
139 low, the *TopHat2* default allowances (denoted N2 – allowing 2 SNPs or 2 indels per read), moderate
140 (denoted N5 - allowing 5 SNPs and 3 indels per read), and high (denoted N10 - allowing 10 SNPs and
141 6 indels per read) allowances for polymorphism respectively. Varying the indel allowances had very
142 little effect on the percentage of reads mapping to the reference genome (data not shown). *Samtools*'
143 *flagstat* tool (Li et al., 2009) was used to determine the proportion of reads mapped at each allowance
144 for each strain.

145

146 2.3 RNAseq processing and analysis.

147

148 Reads mapped to each gene model were sorted with *samtools sort*, and counted for each of the
149 three bioreplicates for each strain at the three different SNP allowances – N2, N5, N10 – using the
150 following command in *HTseq-count*: *htseq-count -i parent -q -s no -f bam -t cds*
151 */sorted_accepted_hits.bam /genome_annotation_file.gff3* (Anders et al., 2014). Raw mapped read
152 counts for each gene model of each bioreplicate of each strain were compiled and used as input for
153 *DESeq2*.

154 *DESeq2* (Love et al., 2014) was run in *Rstudio* (2015) to identify differential expression between
155 the three strains, at different polymorphism allowances, based on gene model read counts. *DESeq2*'s
156 *plotPCA* tool was used to plot segregation of triplicates based on gene expression of the top 15,000
157 expressed low-polymorphic genes at the moderate N5 allowance. *DESeq2* result tables were exported
158 and manipulated in *MS Excel*. Genes were only called as differentially expressed in this analysis if they
159 1) showed a greater than 2 fold-change difference in expression between the strains compared, and 2)
160 yielded adjusted p-values of less than 0.05.

2.4 Categorizing gene models on the basis of SNP rates and SNP rate differences between strains

SNPs within coding regions (CDS) were called using *samtools mpileup* on whole genome sequence (WGS) datasets created for each of the strains against the MHco3(ISE) genome assembly (Doyle et al., 2019). SNPs present at > 40% frequency were totaled per gene model for each of the strains. The SNP rate was calculated for each gene in each strain by dividing the total number of SNPs in the gene by the respective gene model CDS length. The genes were then categorized in two different ways for subsequent investigation of the effect of sequence polymorphism on read mapping and RNAseq analysis. First, they were categorized based on their SNP rates in each strain: categories 0%, 0-0.5%, 0.5-1%, 1-2%, 2-5%, and > 5%. Second, they were categorized based on the difference in SNP rates for each of the three pairwise strain comparisons (i.e. the SNP rate observed in one strain subtracted by the SNP rate observed in the other) categories >5-15%, >2-5%, >0-2%, 0%. Genes with a >15% difference and were not categorized as they were likely to be due to annotation errors and/or overly short CDS lengths.

2.5 Assessment of genuine transcriptomic variation between the strains.

Differential expression statistics were called with *DESeq2* for each of the three pairwise strain comparisons at each of the three map allowances. In each pairwise strain comparison at the N5 allowance, genes showing low SNP rate differences (less than 2%) were denoted as low-polymorphic genes (LPGs). The number of low-polymorphic genes up- and down-regulated in each strain comparison at the N5 allowance, and shared up- or down-regulated in two strains vs. the third strain,

184 were totaled at both a log2 1X and log2 2X fold-change expression threshold. Candidate anthelmintic
185 resistance gene families, as defined by the published *H. contortus* genome annotation (Laing et al.,
186 2013), were specifically highlighted in that their differential expression was compared at the N2
187 allowance, the N5 allowances, and the N5 allowance with high-polymorphic genes removed.

188 Gene ontological classifications were obtained from *UniProt.org* (The UniProt Consortium, 2015)
189 for *H. contortus* gene models of the originally published annotation (Laing et al., 2013). Low
190 polymorphic genes with ontological classifications were used as the reference gene set against which
191 enrichment was assessed. Functional enrichment was called in genes > log2 1X fold-change
192 differentially expressed in each pairwise, and each shared strain comparison. *FunRich* (Pathan et al.,
193 2015) was used to call enriched gene ontological classes using a statistical significance threshold of
194 Benjamini-Hochberg corrected FDR adjusted p-values < 0.05.

195

196 **3. Results**

197

198 *3.1 Coding sequence polymorphism affects RNAseq read mapping against the MHco3(ISE)*
199 *reference assembly for the three different H. contortus strains.*

200

201 The total combined read counts of the triplicate RNAseq datasets were similar among the three
202 strains at 36,175,121, 36,025,170, and 37,584,775 reads for MHco3(ISE), MHco4(WRS), and
203 MHco10(CAVR) respectively. We determined the total number of CDS SNPs present at > 40%
204 frequency, relative to the MHco3(ISE) reference genome assembly, using whole genome sequence
205 datasets independently created for each strain. A total of 701,715, 1,121,242 and 1,143,102 CDS SNPs,

206 representing rates of 2.97%, 4.74% and 4.84% of the 23.63 Mb *H. contortus* reference CDS annotation,
207 were present for MHco3(ISE), MHco4(WRS), and MHco10(CAVR) respectively.

208 The percentage of RNAseq reads that mapped to the MHco3(ISE) reference genome assembly,
209 using the default SNP allowance (N2 – allowing 2 SNPs or 2 indels per read) in *TopHat2*, was 60.7%,
210 44.8% and 47.1% for the MHco3(ISE), MHco4(WRS) and MHco10(CAVR) strains respectively (Fig.
211 1). Increasing the *TopHat2* SNP allowance parameter changed the percentage of RNAseq reads that
212 mapped (Fig. 1). For the MHco3(ISE) strain, the percentage of RNAseq reads mapping to the reference
213 genome increased as the polymorphism allowance was increased from N2 to N5 (allowing 5 SNPs and
214 3 indels per read) and then decreased as the allowance was further increased to N10 (allowing 10 SNPs
215 and 6 indels per read) (Fig. 1). This pattern was very similar for the MHco4(WRS) and
216 MHco10(CAVR) strains but the maximum percentage of reads mapping occurred at the N6 allowance,
217 albeit at rates only 0.1% greater than at N5 (Fig. 1). The percentage of RNAseq reads that mapped to
218 the reference MHco3(ISE) genome assembly was greater for the MHco3(ISE) strain than for the other
219 two strains at all polymorphism allowances, although the magnitude of this difference decreased from
220 the N2 to N10 allowance (Fig. 1).

221 A more detailed analysis was undertaken for the N2, N5 and N10 polymorphism allowances at the
222 level of gene models. Increasing the polymorphism allowance from N2 to N5 resulted in 12,778,
223 11,101, and 11,324 gene models having a >1% increase in the number of mapped RNAseq reads for
224 MHco3(ISE), MHco4(WRS), and MHco10(CAVR) respectively (Fig. 2A, panel i). In contrast, 591,
225 1,316, and 1,563 genes showed a >1% decrease in RNAseq reads mapped (Fig. 2A, panel i). Further
226 increasing the mapping allowance from N5 to N10 had the opposite effect, with a greater number of
227 gene models having a decreased rather than an increased number of RNAseq reads mapped: A change
228 in the polymorphism allowance from N5 to N10 resulted in 12,529, 8,139, and 8,470 gene models

having a >1% decreased number of RNAseq reads mapped, compared with 1,092, 4,682 and 4,953 genes having an increased number of RNAseq reads mapped for MHco3(ISE), MHco4(WRS), and MHco10(CAVR) strains respectively (Fig. 2A, panel ii).

3.2 The SNP allowance has a greater effect on RNAseq read mapping for gene models with higher levels of sequence polymorphism.

There were large differences in the SNP rates of different gene models, relative to the MHco3(ISE) reference genome, ranging from those with SNP rates of 0% to those above 5%. The 25,111 gene models were binned into several different SNP rate categories to investigate how the mapping of RNAseq reads to the reference MHco3(ISE) genome assembly was affected by the coding region SNP rate (Fig. 2B). The MHco4(WRS) and MHco10(CAVR) strains had a significantly greater proportion of gene models with SNP rates greater than 0.5% [18,910 (75.3%) and 18,886 (75.2%) respectively] compared with the MHco3(ISE) strain [11,303 (45.0%)] (Z-stat = 69.3 ($p < 0.000$) and 69.1 ($p < 0.000$) respectively) (Fig. 2B).

The effect of changing the polymorphism allowance from N2 to N5 on RNAseq read mapping for each of the different SNP rate categories of gene models was examined for each strain (Fig. 2C, panel i; Supplementary Table S1). The ratio of RNAseq reads mapping to gene models at the N5 compared to the N2 allowance was > 1 for all SNP rate categories above 0% for all three strains (Fig. 2C, panel i). Furthermore, this ratio increased as the SNP rate increased. In contrast, the ratio of RNAseq reads mapping to gene models at the N10 allowance compared to the N5 allowance was < 1 except for gene models with a polymorphism frequency of > 5% for strains MHco4(WRS) and MHco10(WRS) (Fig. 2C, panel ii).

3.3 High levels of sequence polymorphism artificially inflate between-strain RNAseq differential expression results.

We next investigated the influence of CDS sequence polymorphism on the RNAseq differential expression reported by *DESeq2* between pairwise strain comparisons. We hypothesized that gene models with large differences in SNP rates (SNPs/bp) between two strains are more likely to be reported as differentially expressed between those strains than gene models with smaller SNP rate differences. To test this hypothesis, for each gene model we first determined the difference in SNP rates (SNPs/bp) between each pairwise comparison of the three strains. We then plotted the difference in the SNP rate between the two strains against the log₂-fold difference in expression called by *DESeq2* for each gene model (Fig. 3). Using the MHco4(WRS) and MHco3(ISE) pairwise comparison as an example, for those gene models with a higher SNP rate in MHco4(WRS) than in MHco3(ISE), a greater number was reported by *DESeq2* as down-regulated in MHco4(WRS) relative to MHco3(ISE) than as up-regulated (Fig. 3A). This bias towards down-regulation increased as the SNP rate difference of gene models between the two strains increased (Fig. 3A). For gene models with a lower SNP rate in MHco4(WRS) than in MHco3(ISE), the opposite trend was apparent (Fig. 3B). Similar patterns were observed in both the MHco3(ISE) vs. MHco10(CAVR) and MHco4(WRS) vs. MHco10(CAVR) pairwise comparisons (Fig. 3C-F).

To further quantify how SNP rate differences between the strains biases reporting of differential expression, we placed each of the 25,049 gene models with SNP rate data into one of seven “SNP rate difference” categories for each pairwise strain comparison (data for the MHco3(ISE) vs. MHco4(WRS) pairwise comparison is shown in Figure 4, and Supplementary Table S2). The percentage of gene

models reported as differentially expressed (with adjusted p-values < 0.05 and $> \log_2 1X$ fold-change in expression) was lowest for the 0% SNP rate difference category and increased as the SNP rate difference category increased (Fig. 4A). This trend was seen at all three SNP mapping allowances (Fig. 4A). There was also a strong relationship between the directionality of the differential expression called by *DESeq2* and the directionality of the SNP rate difference between the strains. For SNP rate difference categories where the SNP rate was greater in MHco4(WRS) than in MHco3(ISE) by at least 2%, the large majority of gene models reported as differentially expressed were down-regulated in MHco4(WRS) relative to MHco3(ISE) (396/425 (93.2%)) (Supplementary Table S2). Conversely, the large majority of gene models with SNP rates at least 2% lower in MHco4(WRS) than in MHco3(ISE), were up-regulated in MHco4(WRS) relative to MHco3(ISE) (21/27 (77.8%)) (Supplementary Table S2).

3.4 Minimizing the effect of sequence polymorphism differences on differential expression analysis in pairwise strain comparisons.

We next investigated ways to minimize the effect of sequence polymorphism on global transcriptomic differential expression analysis in pairwise strain comparisons. We first examined the effect of changing the read mapping polymorphism allowance on the number and bias of the differentially expressed genes reported by *DESeq2* in pairwise strain comparisons. When the polymorphism allowance was changed from N2 to N5 or from N5 to N10, there was an overall decrease in the total number of differentially expressed genes reported in all three pairwise strain comparisons (Supplementary Table S3). This trend was generally observed for genes in all SNP rate difference categories (see example of MHco3(ISE) vs. MHco4(WRS) pairwise comparison in Fig. 4A).

298 At the default N2 polymorphism allowance, *DESeq2* reported more genes down-regulated than up-
299 regulated in both MHco4(WRS) and MHco10(CAVR) when each was compared to MHco3(ISE)
300 (Supplementary Fig. S1; Supplementary Table S3). This bias was reduced as the mapping allowance
301 was increased to N5 and then N10 (Supplementary Fig. S1; Supplementary Table S3). In contrast, the
302 MHco4(WRS) and MHco10(CAVR) pairwise comparison showed a relatively equal ratio of down-
303 regulated and up-regulated gene numbers even at the default N2 polymorphism allowance
304 (Supplementary Fig. S1; Supplementary Table S3).

305 We then calculated the net (overall mean) differential expression (NDE) of all gene models in
306 each of the seven “SNP rate difference” categories for each of the pairwise strain comparisons to see if
307 there was an overall directional bias to the data (data for the MHco4(WRS) and MHco3(ISE) pairwise
308 strain comparison is shown in Fig. 4B). The NDE in the direction MHco4(WRS) > MHco3(ISE) was
309 greatest for those gene models in the 5 - 15% MHco4(WRS) > MHco3(ISE) SNP rate difference
310 category and least for gene models in the 0% SNP rate difference category (Fig. 4B, Supplementary
311 Table S2A). Conversely, the NDE in the direction MHco4(WRS) < MHco3(ISE) was highest for gene
312 models in the 5 - 15% MHco4(WRS) < MHco3(ISE) SNP rate difference category and least for the 0%
313 SNP rate difference category (Fig. 4B, Supplementary Table S2A). The NDE of gene models between
314 strains was highest at the N2 polymorphism mapping allowance, and least for the N10 polymorphism
315 mapping allowance, in all SNP rate difference categories (Fig. 4B; Supplementary Table S2A).

316 The NDE of gene models between the strains was relatively close to zero for genes of the three
317 lowest SNP rate difference categories, particularly at the N5 and N10 polymorphism allowances (Fig.
318 4B; Supplementary Table S2B). This suggests that gene models with < 2% difference in SNP rate
319 between strains had a minimal bias in pairwise strain differential expression analyses. We defined these
320 gene models as “low-polymorphic gene models” (LPGs) in the subsequent differential expression

analysis. These represent 17,881 out of the total of 25,111 gene models in the *H. contortus* whole genome annotation (71.2%) and so represent the majority of gene models (Supplementary Fig. S2).

3.5 Investigating genuine transcriptional differences between *H. contortus* strains.

We restricted the global transcriptomic analysis to the low-polymorphic gene models, as defined above, and used an N5 polymorphism allowance for read mapping to minimize the confounding effect of inter-strain sequence polymorphism. This resulted in the inclusion of 20,781, 19,397, and 22,924 gene models for the MHco4(WRS) vs. MHco3(ISE), MHco10(CAVR) vs. MHco3(ISE), and MHco4(WRS) vs. MHco10(CAVR) pairwise strain comparisons respectively (Supplementary Fig. S2). A set of 17,881 genes was common to the analysis set for all three pairwise comparisons (Supplementary Fig. S2). Normalized global expression of each of the nine bioreplicate RNAseq datasets clustered by strain on PCA analysis demonstrating that there are transcriptomic differences between the strains, even after the effects of sequence polymorphism on RNAseq mapping are minimized (Supplementary Fig. S3).

A total of 1,125 (5.41% of LPGs), 1,498 (7.72% of LPGs), and 824 (3.59% of LPGs) genes were differentially expressed at $> 1X \log_2$ fold in the MHco4(WRS) vs. MHco3(ISE), MHco10(CAVR) vs. MHco3(ISE), and MHco4(WRS) vs. MHco10(CAVR) pairwise comparisons respectively (Fig. 5). Of these, 134 genes (41 up-regulated, 93 down-regulated), 259 genes (121 up-regulated, 138 down regulated), and 103 genes (40 up-regulated, 63 down regulated) were $> 2X \log_2$ fold differentially expressed respectively (Fig. 5). The large majority of the most differentially expressed genes in all strains comparisons were either undescribed or had only broad ontological classifications (Supplementary Table S4). No previously reported ivermectin resistance candidate low-polymorphic

344 genes were observed to be differentially expressed in at $> 2X$ log₂ fold-change expression in either of
345 the two ivermectin resistance strains relative to the MHCo3(ISE) susceptible strain (Supplementary
346 Table S4).

347 We examined the number of genes that were differentially expressed in more than one of the
348 pairwise strain comparisons to see if a set of genes was common to different pairwise comparisons. The
349 highest proportion of shared differentially expressed LPGs was between the MHco4(WRS) vs.
350 MHco3(ISE) and MHco10(CAVR) vs. MHco3(ISE) pairwise strain comparisons (Supplementary Fig.
351 S4). Of the 2,132 gene models differentially expressed between either MHco4(WRS) and
352 MHco10(CAVR) vs. MHco3(ISE), 491 (23.03%) were differentially expressed with the same
353 directionality (up- or down- regulated) in both pairwise comparisons at $>1X$ log₂ fold change (48 gene
354 models at $> 2X$ log₂ fold change) (Supplementary Fig. S4A). Fewer genes were shared in the other two
355 strain combinations: of the 2,025 gene models differentially expressed between either MHco3(ISE) and
356 MHco4(WRS) strains vs. MHco10(CAVR), 297 (14.67%) gene models were differentially
357 expressed with the same directionality at >1 log₂-fold change (39 gene models at >2 log₂-fold
358 change) in both pairwise comparisons (Supplementary Fig. S4B). Of the 1,794 gene models
359 differentially expressed between either MHco3(ISE) and MHco10(CAVR) vs. MHco4(WRS), only 155
360 (8.64%) gene models were differentially expressed at >1 log₂-fold change (8 gene models at >2 log₂
361 fold change) with the same directionality in both comparisons (Supplementary Fig. S4C). Both these
362 percentages represent a significantly lower proportion of differentially expressed genes shared than
363 were observed shared in MHco4(WRS) and MHco10(CAVR) vs. MHco3(ISE) (Z-stats = 6.8 ($p <$
364 0.000), and 12.1 ($p < 0.000$) respectively).

365

366 *3.6 Investigating the effect of sequence polymorphism on differential expression analysis of two*
367 *gene families of relevance to ivermectin resistance research.*

368
369 67 ligand-gated chloride channels (LGICs) and 86 ABC transporters identified in the published *H.*
370 *contortus* draft genome (Laing et al, 2013) were examined for differential expression between the
371 MHco4(WRS) and MHco10(CAVR) ivermectin resistant strains and the susceptible MHco3(ISE)
372 strain. Three different differential expression analyses were compared to assess the impact of
373 accounting for sequence polymorphisms differences between the strains; using the default N2 SNP
374 allowance on all 25,111 gene models, using the N5 SNP allowance on all 25,111 genes, and using the
375 N5 SNP allowance on the set of 17,881 low-polymorphic genes (LPGs). There was a substantial
376 reduction in the total number of differentially expressed genes reported using the N5 allowance on the
377 LPG gene set compared with the N2 default allowance on the full gene set (Table 1). When comparing
378 the two ivermectin resistant strains with the ivermectin sensitive strain, only three of the low-
379 polymorphic genes – *Hco-lgc-55*, *Hco-pmp-6*, and *Hco-lgc-44* – showed differential expression at the
380 N5 allowance in both the MHco4(WRS) and MHco10(CAVR) vs. MHco3(ISE) pairwise comparisons.
381 *Hco-lgc-55* had > 2X log2 fold up-regulation in both cases (Table 1).

382
383 **4. Discussion**

384
385 Differential expression analysis, either at the single gene or whole transcriptome level, between
386 parasitic nematode strains and isolates is a common experimental approach. For example, a number of
387 candidate anthelmintic resistance genes have been identified by differential expression analysis of drug
388 resistant and susceptible isolates (Dicker et al., 2011; El-Abdellati et al., 2011; Williamson et al., 2011;

389 Xu et al., 1998). In the case of *H. contortus*, we reasoned that the extremely high levels of sequence
390 polymorphism both within and between laboratory strains and field isolates (reviewed in Gilleard and
391 Redman, (2016)), might confound the validity of such comparisons when using RNAseq, which is now
392 the central approach to conducting differential gene expression analyses. The majority of researchers
393 use only the default parameters of RNAseq data analysis pipelines and do not explore the effect of
394 different parameters on results reported (Baruzzo et al., 2017). It has been shown, using simulated
395 datasets, that the parameter with the greatest impact on performance is the number of mismatches
396 tolerated by during read mapping (Baruzzo et al., 2017). Since this seemed likely to be a particular
397 issue for organisms with high levels of sequence polymorphism, we undertook a detailed analysis to
398 examine the extent to which this may impact RNAseq based differential expression analysis between
399 *H. contortus* strains, and investigate how it could be mitigated to allow genuine transcriptional
400 differences to be assessed. We used *TopHat2* (Dobin and Gingeras, 2013) as our read mapping
401 software as this has been the mapping program most commonly used for RNAseq analysis over a
402 number of years and currently has the most citation in RNAseq literature. There are a number of
403 alternative mapping tools available whose use is becoming increasingly common, such as *HISAT2*
404 (Kim et al., 2015), which is *TopHat2*'s recommended successor, but these tools are similarly sensitive
405 to changes in the mismatch parameter (Baruzzo et al., 2017).

406 A higher percentage of RNAseq reads mapped to the reference genome assembly for MHco3(ISE)
407 than for the MHco4(WRS) and MHco10(CAVR) strains (Fig. 1). This was hypothesized to be due to
408 sequence polymorphism reducing read mapping efficiency and reflecting the higher overall CDS SNP
409 rate in the latter two strains with respect to the MHco3(ISE) derived reference genome sequence (Fig.
410 1). This hypothesis was supported by the improvement of overall read mapping efficiency achieved by
411 increasing SNP mapping allowance to N5 (allowing 5 SNPs and 3 indels per read) from the default N2

412 value (allowing 2 SNPs or 2 indels per read). This change in SNP mapping allowance resulted in an
413 increase in the number of reads mapped for a large number of gene models (Fig. 2A). This
414 improvement in read mapping efficiency, as a result of increased SNP mapping allowance, was not
415 confined to the MHco4(WRS) and MHco10(CAVR) data, but also occurred with the MHco3(ISE) data.
416 These results suggest that mapping efficiency is affected by both between-strain and within-strain
417 sequence polymorphism. We also investigated the extent to which sequence polymorphism varied
418 among gene models and how this affected read mapping efficiency (Fig. 2B). When SNP allowances
419 were increased from N2 to N5, genes with higher levels of polymorphism showed larger proportionate
420 increases in reads mapped for all three strains (Fig. 2C, panel i). This further illustrates the impact of
421 sequence polymorphism on RNAseq read mapping efficiency and how it is greater for more
422 polymorphic genes.

423 Having shown that sequence polymorphism affects RNAseq read mapping to a reference genome
424 assembly with *TopHat2*, we next investigated how this might bias differential expression analysis using
425 *DESeq2*; one of the most commonly used bioinformatic tools for RNAseq data analysis (Fig. 3 and Fig.
426 4A). For each gene model, we plotted the *DESeq2* differential expression results against the difference
427 in SNP rate (relative to the reference genome assembly) between the two strains being compared (Fig.
428 3). For each pairwise strain comparison, gene models which had higher differences in the level of
429 sequence polymorphism between the strains were more likely to be down-regulated than to be up-
430 regulated in the strain with the highest level of sequence polymorphism (Fig. 3). Further, this bias
431 increased with the magnitude of difference in polymorphism rate of gene models between the strains
432 (Fig. 3 and Fig. 4A). This effect was true for all three pairwise strain comparisons, including between
433 the two “non-reference” MHco4(WRS) and MHco10(CAVR) strains. There is no obvious biological

reason for such differential expression biases, based on differences in SNP polymorphism rates, and so we concluded this is due to the effect of sequence polymorphism on RNAseq mapping rates.

Consequently, biases due to inter-strain differences in SNP polymorphism rates needed to be minimized before meaningful differential expression analysis could be performed. The first approach to achieve this was to choose RNAseq read mapping parameters in *TopHat2* to maximize read mapping efficiency for all the strains. Overall read mapping success peaked at the N5 or N6 SNP mapping allowances, depending on the strain (with very little difference between these two values (Fig. 1)). At the level of the gene model, the clear majority of genes had higher numbers of reads mapping at the N5 allowance than at either the N2 or N10 allowances (Fig. 2A). Consequently, the N5 mapping allowance maximized read mapping efficiency. Furthermore, the directional biases in the differential expression reports between strains were greatly reduced at the N5 mapping allowance (Fig. 4A-B, Supplementary Fig. S1). Consequently, the N5 mapping allowance was considered optimal to use for further analysis. However, optimizing the SNP mapping allowance did not completely remove the directional expression biases. For example, even at the N5 SNP mapping allowance, although the directional expression bias was close to zero for genes with SNP rate difference between strains of $< 2\%$, it persisted for genes with a difference in SNP rate of $> 2\%$ (Fig. 4B). This led us to conclude that it was not possible to reliably measure differential expression for those genes $> 2\%$ SNP rate differences between strains, even at the N5 read mapping allowance. Consequently, we precluded these genes in subsequent transcriptomic analysis. These results have important implications for differential expression analysis between different strains/isolates of organisms with high levels of genetic diversity and suggest that sequence polymorphism needs to be defined and accounted for as part of the analysis. There are an number of other read mapping tools available for RNAseq analysis some of which, although less widely used than *TopHat2*, may be less impacted by high levels of sequence

457 polymorphism (Baruzzo et al., 2017). *TopHat2* is still widely used but it is noteworthy that the
458 mapping tool which is increasingly used in place *TopHat2* is *HISAT2*, which is only slightly less
459 sensitive to changes in mismatch parameters using simulated datasets (Baruzzo et al., 2017). Other read
460 mapping tools such as *NovoAlign* (<http://www.novocraft.com/products/novoalign/>) or *GSNAP* (Wu and
461 Nacu, 2010), that may be less impacted by sequence polymorphism, deserve more exploration for use
462 in RNAseq differential expression pipelines for organisms such as *H. contortus* with high levels of
463 genetic variation.

464 Pairwise comparisons of three genetically divergent strains of *H. contortus* revealed large numbers
465 of differentially expressed genes, even after the confounding effects of sequence polymorphism were
466 removed (Fig. 5). The proportion of differentially expressed genes between the *H. contortus* strains far
467 exceed those previously observed in inter-population studies of vertebrate species such as human and
468 mouse (Bottomly et al., 2011; Li et al., 2014), and it is greater than has been reported between different
469 strains of *C. elegans* (N2/Bristol and CB4856/Hawaiian strains) (Capra et al., 2008; Francesconi and
470 Lehner, 2014). This remarkably large number of differentially expressed genes between these *H.*
471 *contortus* strains may have many different phenotypic traits which could have a variety of implications
472 for their life history traits, epidemiology, pathogenicity, and susceptibility to drugs and/or vaccines.
473 This reflects the high genetic diversity of *H. contortus* and of these particular strains. MHco3(ISE),
474 MHco4(WRS), and MHco10(CAVR) are derived from field isolates obtained from different continents
475 and are highly genetically divergent (Gilleard and Redman, 2016; Redman et al., 2012, 2008). For
476 example, the levels of genetic diversity (F_{st} values) between strains based on microsatellite genotyping
477 ranged from 0.1530 to 0.2696 which is as high or higher than some closely related species in some
478 cases (Prado-Martinez et al., 2013; Redman et al., 2008; Romiguier et al., 2014). Further, although the
479 nematode body plan is superficially simple, a variety of morphological and morphometric traits vary

480 between these three strains, including vulval morphology, oesophagus length, and spicule length in
481 males as well as the extent of the synlophe cuticular ridges in females (Gilleard and Redman, 2016;
482 Sargison et al., 2019). Also, there is evidence of lethality of some hybrid progeny of these strains
483 (Sargison et al., 2019).

484 The results of this study also have important implications for anthelmintic resistance research
485 which, until very recently, has been dominated by candidate gene studies (Gilleard, 2013, 2006;
486 Rezansoff et al., 2016). In the case of ivermectin resistance, such studies have so far failed to identify
487 the key loci or genes involved in resistance for any parasitic nematode, including *H. contortus*
488 (Gilleard, 2013). One common component of candidate gene studies has been to compare the
489 expression levels of specific candidate genes between a small number of ivermectin resistant and
490 susceptible parasite strains (Dicker et al., 2011; El-Abdellati et al., 2011; Williamson et al., 2011; Xu et
491 al., 1998). It is common for such studies to report differences in expression between resistant and
492 susceptible strains for candidate genes such as P-glycoproteins (PGPs) or ligand-gated ion channels
493 (LGICs). These differences are commonly used as circumstantial evidence for a role in resistance. Our
494 results here show the context in which such studies should be interpreted as a very large number of
495 genes are differentially expressed in pairwise comparisons of genetically divergent *H. contortus* strains
496 (Fig. 5). 824 - 1,498 low-polymorphic genes were differentially expressed between the strains in the
497 study at a level of 2-fold and an adjusted statistical significance of $p < 0.05$ (as called by *DESeq2*). This
498 highlights the inherently high levels of “background” transcriptomic variation that occur between
499 genetically divergent *H. contortus* strains. Consequently, care must be taken when interpreting a
500 suggested association of differential expression of a gene with a drug resistance phenotype when a
501 small number of genes are compared between a small number of drug resistant and susceptible strains.

502 This is particularly the case when the degree of genetic differentiation or the general level of
503 transcriptomic difference that exists between the strains has not been assessed.

504 Recently, studies analyzing the expression of small numbers of candidate genes are being replaced
505 with more global transcriptomic studies. The draft *H. contortus* genome and its recent improvement
506 into a chromosomal level assembly is making such studies increasingly feasible on a genome-wide
507 scale (Doyle et al., 2018; Laing et al., 2013). The work presented here also has important implications
508 for global transcriptomic comparisons of drug resistant and susceptible strains. Two gene families often
509 suggested to be involved in ivermectin resistance are the LGICs and ABC transporter genes (Laing et
510 al., 2013). We used the gene models in the *H. contortus* draft annotation to assess how many members
511 of these gene families were differentially expressed between the MHco4(WRS) and MHco10(CAVR)
512 ivermectin resistant strains and the MHco3(ISE) susceptible strain using the default polymorphism
513 allowance (N2), the optimized polymorphism allowance (N5), and the polymorphism allowance (N5)
514 but removing the highly polymorphic gene set (Table 1). We found there was a dramatic reduction in
515 the number of members of these genes families that were determined to be differentially expressed
516 when polymorphism allowance was increased to the optimal N5 allowance (Table 1). A further
517 reduction was apparent when the most highly polymorphic genes were discarded from the analysis
518 (Table 1).

519 These results highlight the fact that a substantial number of differentially expressed genes reported
520 are likely to be artifacts caused by differences in sequence polymorphism between the strains being
521 compared which are not accounted for. In the case of our analysis, accounting for sequence
522 polymorphism reveals a smaller number of differentially expressed candidate genes perhaps worthy of
523 further investigation. The ABC transporter *Hco-pmp-6*, and two LGICs – *Hco-lgc-55* and *Hco-lgc-44* –
524 were differentially expressed with the same directionality in both ivermectin resistant strains relative to

the MHco3(ISE) strain. *Hco-lgc-55* is a tyramine-gated chloride channel whose *C. elegans* homologue *Cel-lgc-55* is expressed in the pharynx and is involved in worm motility (Rao et al., 2010; Ringstad et al., 2009). The ABC transporter *Hco-wht-4*, and the LGICs *Hco-lgc-3*, *Hco-lgc-33*, *Hco-lgc-9*, and *Hco-acr-24* were other genes with a $> 2X$ log₂ fold-change differential expression in the MHco10(CAVR) strain, although these genes were not differentially expressed in the other resistant strain, MHco4(WRS). *Hco-lgc-3* was the gene with the highest level of up-regulation across both these gene families, being differentially expressed at greater than 50-fold in MHco3(CAVR) relative to MHco3(ISE) (Table 1). The gene may be considered of interest given its homology to a paralogous pair of *C. elegans* proton-gated ion channels, *Cel-pbo-5* and *Cel-pbo-6*, which are required for normal posterior muscle function (Beg et al., 2008). However, further functional and genetic studies are required before making any inferences of the potential role of these genes in mediating the ivermectin resistance phenotype of *H. contortus*.

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Figure Legends

Figure 1. The percentage of RNAseq reads that mapped to the MHco3(ISE) reference genome assembly at different *TopHat2* SNP (polymorphism) allowances (N2 to N10) shown for each of the three *H. contortus* strains MHco3(ISE), MHco4(WRS), and MHco10(CAVR).

Figure 2. A) The number of genes which had either a >1% increase (green bars) or >1% decrease (red bars) in the number of RNAseq reads mapping to them on the reference MHco3(ISE) genome assembly following an increase in the read mapping polymorphism allowance in *TopHat2* for *H. contortus* strains MHco3(ISE), MHco4(WRS), and MHco10(CAVR). Panel *i* shows the data for a change in polymorphism allowance of N2 to N5 and panel *ii* shows the data for a change from N5 to N10. B) The number of gene models in each SNP rate category for each *H. contortus* strain. The SNP rate for each gene model was calculated by dividing the number of SNPs in each CDS by the total CDS length for each gene model. C) Ratios of the total number of RNAseq reads mapping to gene models in each SNP rate category at two different SNP mapping allowances for each *H. contortus* strain. Panel *i* shows the N5:N2 ratio. Panel *ii* shows the N10:N5 ratio. Counts of reads mapped were totaled for all genes within each SNP rate category of each strain (colour coded).

Figure 3. Scatter plots of the differential expression of gene models, as determined by *DESeq2* (X-axis), plotted against their difference in SNP rate percentage between the two strains being compared (Y-axis). Gene model data points in each pairwise comparison are split into two panels, the left panel showing the gene models with higher SNP rates in one strain of each pairwise comparison and the right panel showing the gene models with higher SNP rates in the other pairwise strain. A and B show the MHco4(WRS) vs. MHco3(ISE) comparison, C and D show the MHco10(CAVR) vs. MHco3(ISE) comparison, and E and F show the MHco4(WRS) vs. MHco10(CAVR) comparison. The difference in the SNP rate percentage between the two strains is shown on the y-axis and plotted against reported log₂ fold-change differential expression for each gene. The red lines represent zero differential expression.

Figure 4. A) The percentage of expressed gene models in each SNP rate difference category that are differentially expressed between MHco3(ISE) and MHco4(WRS) (log₂ fold-change > 1X; adjusted p-value < 0.05) for each of the three SNP (polymorphism) allowances – N2, N5, and N10 – when mapping. B) The net log₂ fold differences in expression (NDE) of all expressed genes in each SNP rate difference category. NDEs are shown for the N2, N5 and N10 SNP allowances when read mapping for the MHco3(ISE) vs. MHco4(WRS) pairwise comparison. NDEs are the mean value for all genes in each SNP rate difference category. Negative NDE values indicate an overall bias towards down-

regulation of genes in MHco4(WRS) vs. MHco3(ISE) strain. Positive values report an overall bias towards up-regulation of genes.

Figure 5. The total number of differentially expressed low-polymorphic genes (LPGs) observed in each pairwise strain comparison at the N5 mapping allowance. Gene counts at both $> 1X$ log2 fold-change (orange dots), and $> 2X$ log2 fold-change (red dots) thresholds are shown. The blue line on the y-axis represents an adjusted p-value of 0.05.

Supplementary Figure Legends

Supplementary Figure S1. Volcano plots showing differential expression of gene models at three different SNP allowances in *Tophap2*'s mapping parameters (N2, N5, N10) are shown for each pairwise strain comparison. Log2 fold-change difference in expression from -4 to 4 is represented along the x-axis of each chart, and *DESeq2* -log10 adjusted p-values of the differential expression calls from 0 to 30 are represented along the y-axis. Gene positions exceeding a maximum value on either axis are placed at max value on that axis. Red points on the right and left sides of each plot represent genes differentially expressed at $> 1X$ and $< -1X$ log2 fold-change respectively with adjusted p-values < 0.05 . Blue points represent genes significantly differentially expressed but at less than $1X$ log2 fold-change in either direction.

Supplementary Figure S2. Venn diagram showing the numbers of gene models qualifying as low-polymorphic genes to be included in the different pairwise strain comparisons. The total number of genes qualifying as low-polymorphic genes in each of the pairwise strain comparisons are shown outside respective circles (i.e. gene models with differences in SNP rates between the two strains of $< 2\%$). The number of these genes shared and not shared among the pairwise strain comparisons are shown within respective Venn circles.

Supplementary Figure S3. A PCA plot representing the variance in log gene expression of low-polymorphic genes of each triplicate dataset for each of the three populations when mapped at the N5 mapping allowance.

Supplementary Figure S4. Venn diagrams showing the numbers of genes differentially expressed in each pairwise strain comparison, and shared differentially expressed between different pairwise strain comparisons. Venn circles are colour coded by pairwise strain comparison – red represents differentially expressed gene numbers of the MHco4(WRS) vs. MHco3(ISE) comparison, orange represents the MHco10(CAVR) vs. MHco3(ISE) comparison, and green represents the MHco4(WRS) vs. MHco10(CAVR) comparison. Differentially expressed genes were counted and cross-referenced at

814 two thresholds of differential expression: \log_2 fold-change difference in expression > 1 (italicized), and
815 \log_2 fold-change difference in expression > 2 (bolded).

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Tables.

Table 1. Differentially expressed genes of ivermectin resistance candidate gene families, the ligand-gated ion channels (LGICs) (A and B), and ABC transporters (C and D). The respective log₂ fold-change differences in expression are shown for both of the ivermectin resistant strains – MHco4(WRS) (A and C) and MHco10(CAVR) (B and D) relative to the ivermectin susceptible reference strain – MHco3(ISE). In each panel, all genes differentially expressed at the default (N2) SNP allowance are shown (left column), at the N5 SNP allowance (middle column), and at the N5 SNP allowance with the highly polymorphic genes removed (right column). Highly polymorphic genes comprise genes with a > 2% difference in SNP rate between the two strains compared.

| Ligand-gated Ion Channels | | | | | |
|------------------------------|-------|------------|--------------------------------|------------|-------|
| Up-regulated in MHco4(WRS) | | | Up-regulated in MHco10(CAVR) | | |
| N2 | N5 | | N5 LPGs | | |
| Hco-lgc-55 | 2.64 | Hco-lgc-55 | 2.74 | Hco-lgc-55 | 2.74 |
| Hco-acc-2 | 1.15 | | | Hco-lgc-3 | 6.83 |
| Hco-lgc-39 | 1.11 | | | Hco-lgc-55 | 2.36 |
| | | | | Hco-acc-6 | 1.73 |
| | | | | Hco-lgc-41 | 1.58 |
| | | | | Hco-acc-1 | 1.53 |
| | | | | Hco-mptl-1 | 1.32 |
| | | | | Hco-glc-2 | 1.06 |
| | | | | | |
| Down-regulated in MHco4(WRS) | | | Down-regulated in MHco10(CAVR) | | |
| N2 | N5 | | N5 LPGs | | |
| Hco-glc-5 | -2.56 | Hco-glc-5 | -1.47 | Hco-lgc-7 | -4.48 |
| Hco-lgc-34 | -2.41 | Hco-lgc-34 | -1.19 | Hco-glc-5 | -3.02 |
| Hco-lgc-7 | -2.3 | Hco-lgc-7 | -2.55 | Hco-lgc-33 | -2.99 |
| Hco-acc-17b | -1.78 | | | Hco-lgc-43 | -2.66 |
| Hco-lgc-43 | -1.61 | | | Hco-lgc-9 | -2.26 |
| Hco-lgc-44 | -1.5 | Hco-lgc-44 | -1.14 | Hco-lgc-9 | -2.26 |
| Hco-acc-24 | -1.29 | Hco-acc-24 | -1.44 | Hco-acc-24 | -2.09 |
| Hco-des-2 | -1.18 | Hco-des-2 | -1.27 | Hco-ggr-3 | -2.09 |
| Hco-lgc-27 | -1.12 | | | Hco-lgc-44 | -1.5 |
| Hco-lgc-40 | -1.07 | | | Hco-eat-2X | -1.8 |
| | | | | Hco-acc-15 | -1.57 |

Supplementary Tables.

Supplementary Table S1. Data point values associated with Figure 4.

| SNP category | MHco3(1SE) | | | MHco4(WRS) | | | MHco10(CAVR) | | |
|--------------|------------|-----------|----------|------------|----------|-----------|--------------|-----------|--|
| | N2 to N5 | N5 to N10 | N2 to N5 | N5 to N10 | N2 to N5 | N5 to N10 | N2 to N5 | N5 to N10 | |
| >5% | 1.71 | 0.90 | 2.00 | 1.31 | 1.86 | 1.29 | | | |
| 2 to 5% | 1.81 | 0.73 | 1.70 | 1.01 | 1.71 | 0.99 | | | |
| 1 to 2 % | 1.67 | 0.67 | 1.36 | 0.91 | 1.33 | 0.89 | | | |
| .5 to 1 % | 1.43 | 0.65 | 1.13 | 0.82 | 1.14 | 0.90 | | | |
| <.5% | 1.30 | 0.63 | 1.02 | 0.81 | 1.02 | 0.82 | | | |
| 0 | 1.24 | 0.62 | 0.94 | 0.70 | 0.96 | 0.72 | | | |

Supplementary Table S2. A) Genes were classified based on their SNP rate difference in MHco4(WRS) relative to MHco3(1SE). Genes were grouped into seven SNP rate difference categories from extreme rates of 5 to 15% in both directions, to genes showing SNP rate differences of zero. The total number of genes, and the numbers within this total classified by *DESeq2* as: unexpressed, showing low counts, and the number expressed are shown for genes of each SNP rate difference category at SNP mapping allowances N2, N5, N10. Of expressed genes, the number of genes showing no differential expression (DE) in MHco4(WRS) vs. MHco3(1SE), and the number of genes differentially expressed in each of five different magnitudes - from > log2 2X fold-change up-regulated, to > log2 2X fold-change down-regulated - are shown. The mean (net) log2 fold-difference in expression (NDE), representing the average of difference in expression values of all expressed genes in each SNP rate difference category are shown at all SNP mapping allowances N2, N5, N10. B) Compiled numbers for genes of all categories are shown, contrasted by compiled numbers for genes of only the low-polymorphic gene categories, i.e. both 0 to 2% categories and the 0% category.

A.

| | 5 to 15% higher in MHco4(WRS) | | | 2 to 5% higher in MHco4(WRS) | | | 0 to 2 % higher in MHco4(WRS) | | | 0% | | | 0 to 2 % higher in MHco3(1SE) | | | 2 to 5% higher in MHco3(1SE) | | | 5 to 15% higher in MHco3(1SE) | | |
|--|-------------------------------|--------|--------|------------------------------|-------|--------|-------------------------------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------------------------------|-------|-------|------------------------------|-------|-------|-------------------------------|-------|-------|
| | N2 | N5 | N10 | N2 | N5 | N10 | N2 | N5 | N10 | N2 | N5 | N10 | N2 | N5 | N10 | N2 | N5 | N10 | N2 | N5 | N10 |
| Total | | 300 | | | 3,463 | | | 12,396 | | | 3,977 | | | 4,408 | | | 407 | | | 98 | |
| Number unexpressed | 94 | 86 | 76 | 542 | 470 | 427 | 1,415 | 1,201 | 1,151 | 1,014 | 935 | 901 | 513 | 434 | 406 | 83 | 70 | 63 | 39 | 37 | 33 |
| Number low counts | 124 | 144 | 150 | 1,002 | 1,210 | 1,211 | 3,398 | 4,044 | 4,035 | 1,478 | 1,711 | 1,711 | 1,249 | 1,424 | 1,391 | 141 | 166 | 167 | 30 | 35 | 38 |
| Number expressed | 82 | 70 | 74 | 1,919 | 1,783 | 1,825 | 7,583 | 7,151 | 7,210 | 1,485 | 1,331 | 1,365 | 2,646 | 2,550 | 2,611 | 183 | 171 | 177 | 29 | 26 | 27 |
| Number showing no DE | 42 | 47 | 47 | 1,019 | 1,078 | 1,264 | 5,029 | 5,086 | 5,342 | 1,000 | 1,008 | 1,103 | 1,655 | 1,806 | 1,955 | 131 | 129 | 133 | 22 | 17 | 22 |
| UP > log2 2X | 0 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 44 | 27 | 20 | 10 | 4 | 3 | 30 | 11 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| UP < log2 2X, > log2 1X | 1 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 26 | 36 | 229 | 166 | 157 | 99 | 45 | 32 | 199 | 96 | 85 | 26 | 14 | 11 | 2 | 4 | 2 |
| DE under the log2 1X threshold | 0 | 0 | 0 | 250 | 303 | 281 | 1,420 | 1,287 | 1,222 | 313 | 204 | 169 | 586 | 516 | 471 | 12 | 19 | 24 | 2 | 5 | 2 |
| DOWN < log2 2X, > log2 1X | 14 | 10 | 18 | 429 | 302 | 211 | 660 | 515 | 431 | 51 | 64 | 55 | 133 | 104 | 85 | 7 | 5 | 6 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| DOWN > log2 2X | 25 | 11 | 7 | 203 | 73 | 32 | 201 | 70 | 38 | 12 | 6 | 3 | 43 | 17 | 9 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Net log2 fold difference in expression (NDE) | -1.331 | -1.004 | -0.682 | -0.846 | -0.51 | -0.316 | -0.174 | -0.13 | -0.096 | 0.184 | 0.035 | -0.01 | 0.128 | 0.06 | 0.03 | 0.323 | 0.234 | 0.162 | 0.307 | 0.305 | 0.145 |

B.

| Total | Full Totals | | | Within 2% totals | | |
|-------|-------------|--------|-----|------------------|--------|-----|
| | N2 | N5 | N10 | N2 | N5 | N10 |
| | | 25,049 | | | 20,781 | |

| | | | | | | |
|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Number unexpressed | 3,700 | 3,233 | 3,057 | 2,942 | 2,570 | 2,458 |
| Number low counts | 7,422 | 8,734 | 8,703 | 6,125 | 7,179 | 7,137 |
| Number expressed | 13,927 | 13,082 | 13,289 | 11,714 | 11,032 | 11,186 |
| Number no DE | 8,898 | 9,171 | 9,866 | 7,684 | 7,900 | 8,400 |
| UP > log2 2X | 96 | 47 | 33 | 84 | 42 | 29 |
| UP < log2 2X, > log2 1X | 568 | 352 | 324 | 527 | 307 | 274 |
| DE under the log2 1X threshold | 2,583 | 2,334 | 2,169 | 2,319 | 2,007 | 1,862 |
| DOWN < log2 2X, > log2 1X | 1,295 | 1,000 | 807 | 844 | 683 | 571 |
| DOWN > log2 2X | 487 | 178 | 90 | 256 | 93 | 50 |
| Net log2 fold differences in expression (NDE) | -1,409 | -1,01 | -0,767 | 0,138 | -0,035 | -0,076 |

Supplementary Table S3. Total number of differentially expressed genes (with adjusted p-values < 0.05 as determined by *DESeq2*) observed in each pairwise strain comparison, at each of the three different map allowances (N2, N5, N10). The number of genes differentially expressed at both > 1 log2 fold, and > 2 log2 fold thresholds are shown. The number of genes up- and down-regulated are also shown along with totals of both.

| | MHco4(WRS) vs. MHco3(ISE) | | | MHco10(CAVR) vs. MHco3(ISE) | | | MHco4(WRS) vs. MHco10(CAVR) | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------|-------|-----------------------------|-------|-------|-----------------------------|-----|-----|
| | N2 | N5 | N10 | N2 | N5 | N10 | N2 | N5 | N10 |
| > 1 log2 fold up-reg. | 664 | 399 | 355 | 1,178 | 834 | 734 | 1011 | 447 | 302 |
| > 1 log2 fold down-reg. | 1,783 | 1,188 | 897 | 2,282 | 1,473 | 1,116 | 968 | 544 | 442 |
| Total > 1 log2 fold | 2,447 | 1,587 | 1,252 | 3,460 | 2,307 | 1,850 | 1,979 | 991 | 744 |
| > 2 log2 fold up-reg. | 96 | 46 | 33 | 288 | 146 | 97 | 264 | 59 | 32 |
| > 2 log2 fold down-reg. | 487 | 179 | 90 | 833 | 324 | 189 | 206 | 77 | 41 |
| Total > 2 log2 fold | 583 | 225 | 123 | 1,121 | 470 | 286 | 470 | 136 | 73 |

Supplementary Table S4. *H. contortus* low-polymorphic gene models present in the UniProt Knowledgebase that are differentially expressed at > 4X fold-change in each pairwise strain comparison. Log2 fold differential expression is shown with length of protein sequence along side ‘Protein names’ and ‘Gene ontology (GO)’ descriptors as denoted on the UniProt Knowledgebase.

| A. Up-regulated in MHco4(WRS) vs MHco3(ISE) | | | | Gene ontology (GO) | |
|---|----------------|--------|---|---|--|
| Gene ID | log2 fold D.E. | Length | Protein names | | |
| HCOI_00655600 | 4.67 | 110 | Zinc finger domain containing protein | zinc ion binding [GO:0008270] | |
| HCOI_00444600 | 3.79 | 359 | 7TM GPCR domain containing protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; G-protein coupled receptor activity [GO:0004930] | |
| HCOI_01404300 | 3.49 | 1235 | Dsec\GM13241-PA | | |
| HCOI_00355800 | 3.45 | 293 | Uncharacterized protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021] | |
| HCOI_00088900 | 3.27 | 361 | Protein UNC-2, isoform c | calcium ion binding [GO:0005509] | |
| HCOI_01590000 | 2.96 | 83 | Uncharacterized protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021] | |
| HCOI_01431800 | 2.8 | 342 | Peptidase CIA domain containing protein | cysteine-type peptidase activity [GO:0008234] | |
| HCOI_00634600 | 2.76 | 231 | Uncharacterized protein (Fragment) | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; G-protein coupled receptor activity [GO:0004930] | |

| | | | | |
|---------------|------|------|--|---|
| HCOI_00162900 | 2.74 | 525 | LGC-55 ligand-gated chloride channel (Neurotransmitter-gated ion-channel ligand-binding and Neurotransmitter-gated ion-channel transmembrane region domain containing protein) | cell junction [GO:0030054]; integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; plasma membrane process [GO:0055861]; synapse [GO:0045202]; extracellular ligand-gated ion channel activity [GO:0005230] |
| HCOI_00295200 | 2.69 | 252 | Glycoside hydrolase domain containing protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; lyszyme activity [GO:0003796]; carbohydrate metabolic process [GO:0005975]; cell wall macromolecule catabolic process [GO:0016998]; peptidoglycan catabolic process [GO:0009233] |
| HCOI_01942400 | 2.66 | 459 | Carboxylic ester hydrolase (EC 3.1.1.-) | cholinesterase activity [GO:004104] |
| HCOI_02043200 | 2.63 | 289 | Protein OSR-1 | |
| HCOI_02045800 | 2.59 | 209 | Tau-tubulin kinase 1 | ATP binding [GO:0005524]; protein kinase activity [GO:0004672] |
| HCOI_00007900 | 2.58 | 180 | Zinc finger domain containing protein | zinc ion binding [GO:0008270] |
| HCOI_00063700 | 2.54 | 118 | Protein FS4D5.4 (Fragment) | |
| HCOI_01355500 | 2.54 | 711 | Glutamate receptor and Ionotropic glutamate receptor domain containing protein | cell junction [GO:0030054]; integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; postsynaptic membrane [GO:0045211]; extracellular-glutamate-gated ion channel activity [GO:0005234]; ionotropic glutamate receptor activity [GO:0004970] |
| HCOI_00293100 | 2.52 | 459 | Armadillo/beta-catenin-like repeat family | |
| HCOI_01022300 | 2.47 | 87 | Undcharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_00007400 | 2.43 | 141 | Undcharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_00475800 | 2.41 | 1593 | Undcharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_01789300 | 2.37 | 102 | Undcharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_00142200 | 2.36 | 1005 | Ion transport and Voltage-dependent calcium channel domain containing protein (Fragment) | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; voltage-gated ion channel activity [GO:0005244] |
| HCOI_02042400 | 2.31 | 467 | Transporter | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; neurotransmitter:sodium symporter activity [GO:0005328] |
| HCOI_01832400 | 2.29 | 260 | 7TM GPCR domain containing protein (Fragment) | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; G-protein coupled receptor activity [GO:0004930] |
| HCOI_01737000 | 2.27 | 362 | Undcharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_02003600 | 2.22 | 178 | Protein VAP-1, isoform a | |
| HCOI_01416100 | 2.16 | 243 | Calponin actin-binding domain containing protein | |
| HCOI_00793300 | 2.12 | 188 | GVF domain containing protein | |
| HCOI_01272300 | 2.1 | 785 | Zinc finger domain containing protein | zinc ion binding [GO:0008270] |
| HCOI_01504900 | 2.1 | 326 | Undcharacterized protein (Fragment) | |
| HCOI_00762800 | 2.07 | 128 | Ubiquitin and Ribosomal protein L40e domain containing protein (Undcharacterized protein) | ribosome [GO:0005840]; structural constituent of ribosome [GO:0003735]; translation [GO:0006412] |
| HCOI_02147600 | 2.05 | 243 | Undcharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_02159500 | 2.05 | 847 | Glutamine amidotransferase and Asparagine synthase domain containing protein | asparagine synthase (glutamine-hydrolyzing) activity [GO:0040661]; transferase activity [GO:0016740]; asparagine biosynthetic process [GO:0006529]; glutamine metabolic process [GO:0006541] |
| HCOI_02043300 | 2.02 | 315 | Undcharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_00850700 | 2.02 | 1121 | Pleckstrin homology and Unconventional myosin plant kinesin protein non-motor protein conserved region MYTH4 and FER1M central domain containing protein | cytoskeleton [GO:0005856] |
| HCOI_01875600 | 2.01 | 972 | Diaphanous GTPase-binding and Diaphanous FH3 and Actin-binding FH2 domain containing protein | actin cytoskeleton organization [GO:0030036] |

B. Down-regulated in Mhco4(WRS) vs Mhco3(SE)

| Gene ID | log2 fold D.E. | Length | Protein names | Gene ontology (GO) |
|---------|----------------|--------|---------------|--------------------|
|---------|----------------|--------|---------------|--------------------|

| | | | | |
|---------------|-------|-----|--|---|
| HCOI_01253600 | -4.73 | 313 | Uncharacterized protein | nucleus [GO:0005634] |
| HCOI_00683900 | -3.57 | 319 | Protein ZC15.5 | |
| HCOI_01170600 | -3.37 | 405 | Beta-lactamase-related domain containing protein | |
| HCOI_00095600 | -3.19 | 179 | Zinc finger domain containing protein | metal ion binding [GO:0046872]; nucleic acid binding [GO:0003676] |
| HCOI_00719200 | -3 | 289 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_02030000 | -2.98 | 329 | Peptidase A1 domain containing protein | aspartic-type endopeptidase activity [GO:0004190] |
| HCOI_00480800 | -2.97 | 554 | Peptidase M8 domain containing protein | membrane [GO:0016020]; metalloendopeptidase activity [GO:0004222]; cell adhesion [GO:0007155] |
| HCOI_00676600 | -2.91 | 506 | Bestrophin domain containing protein | |
| HCOI_01400400 | -2.9 | 99 | Uncharacterized protein | DNA binding [GO:0003677] |
| HCOI_00719400 | -2.87 | 312 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_00915600 | -2.8 | 332 | Uncharacterized protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021] |
| HCOI_00035800 | -2.8 | 142 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_01910900 | -2.78 | 230 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_01997300 | -2.75 | 137 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_00694400 | -2.7 | 150 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_01240800 | -2.7 | 136 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_01830200 | -2.69 | 364 | Ferric reductase transmembrane component domain containing protein (Fragment) | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; calcium ion binding [GO:0005509] |
| HCOI_00998100 | -2.69 | 474 | Major facilitator superfamily MFS-1 domain containing protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; transmembrane transport [GO:0055085] |
| HCOI_01771500 | -2.66 | 101 | Nematode insulin-related peptide domain containing protein | |
| HCOI_01584300 | -2.65 | 484 | Protein-tyrosine phosphatase domain containing protein | protein tyrosine phosphatase activity [GO:0004725] |
| HCOI_00905000 | -2.65 | 186 | Protein VAP-1, isoform a | |
| HCOI_00321000 | -2.6 | 386 | Nitrilase cyanide hydratase and apolipoprotein N-acyltransferase domain containing protein | hydratase activity, acting on carbon-nitrogen (but not peptide) bonds [GO:0016810]; transferase activity, transferring acyl groups [GO:0016746]; nitrogen compound metabolic process [GO:0006807] |
| HCOI_01514300 | -2.56 | 135 | Uncharacterized protein | oxidoreductase activity [GO:0016491] |
| HCOI_00671500 | -2.56 | 317 | Aldo keto reductase domain containing protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021] |
| HCOI_01408000 | -2.54 | 235 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_00438400 | -2.54 | 291 | C-type lectin domain containing protein | carbohydrate binding [GO:0030246] |
| HCOI_00886600 | -2.53 | 318 | C. briggsae CBR-OSM-7 protein | |
| HCOI_02082500 | -2.53 | 289 | Uncharacterized protein | mitochondrion [GO:0005739]; glycine N-acyltransferase activity [GO:0047961] |
| HCOI_00360200 | -2.51 | 135 | 15 kDa excretory/secretory protein | |
| HCOI_01294600 | -2.51 | 246 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_01950000 | -2.5 | 317 | Ion transport 2 domain containing protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021] |
| HCOI_00463000 | -2.48 | 804 | Uncharacterised kinase D1044.1 domain containing protein | kinase activity [GO:0016301] |
| HCOI_00373200 | -2.46 | 83 | Uncharacterized protein | ATP binding [GO:0005524]; DNA binding [GO:0003677]; DNA topoisomerase type II (ATP-hydrolyzing) activity [GO:0003918]; DNA topological change [GO:0006265] |
| HCOI_02047300 | -2.45 | 239 | PAN-1 domain containing protein (Fragment) | |
| HCOI_02094900 | -2.44 | 202 | SCP extracellular domain containing protein | extracellular region [GO:0005576] |
| HCOI_02159800 | -2.42 | 581 | Gamma-glutamyltranspeptidase domain containing protein | gamma-glutamyltransferase activity [GO:0003840]; glutathione metabolic process [GO:0006749] |

| | | | | |
|---------------|-------|-----|---|--|
| HCOI_00007300 | -2.37 | 418 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_01233600 | -2.37 | 196 | CT20 domain containing protein | H4/H2A histone acetyltransferase complex [GO:0043189]; regulation of transcription, DNA-templated [GO:0006355] |
| HCOI_02105800 | -2.33 | 153 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_00915100 | -2.32 | 147 | Heat shock protein Hsp20 domain containing protein | |
| HCOI_00839100 | -2.32 | 144 | Activation associated secreted protein | |
| HCOI_00360100 | -2.31 | 135 | p15 | |
| HCOI_00708200 | -2.31 | 145 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_00209900 | -2.31 | 139 | Heat shock protein Hsp20 domain containing protein | |
| HCOI_00908800 | -2.3 | 179 | Nematode fatty acid retinoid binding domain containing protein | lipid binding [GO:0008289] |
| HCOI_01021400 | -2.28 | 195 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_00892600 | -2.28 | 318 | C-type lectin and Fibrinogen domain containing protein | carbohydrate binding [GO:0030246] |
| HCOI_01950100 | -2.28 | 434 | CRE-TWK-11 protein | |
| HCOI_00998000 | -2.25 | 164 | Glutathione S-transferase domain containing protein (Fragment) | transferase activity [GO:0016740] |
| HCOI_01840900 | -2.23 | 198 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_01414000 | -2.2 | 133 | Protein CDR-4 | |
| HCOI_00026600 | -2.19 | 284 | Elongation of very long chain fatty acids protein (EC 2.3.1.199) (Very-long-chain 3-oxoacyl-CoA synthase) | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; transferase activity [GO:0016740]; fatty acid biosynthetic process [GO:0006633] |
| HCOI_01772400 | -2.16 | 175 | Globin domain containing protein | heme binding [GO:0020037]; iron ion binding [GO:0005506]; oxygen binding [GO:0019825]; oxygen transporter activity [GO:0005344] |
| HCOI_00955600 | -2.15 | 517 | Sodium/dicarboxylate symporter domain containing protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; sodium/dicarboxylate symporter activity [GO:0017153] |
| HCOI_01705900 | -2.15 | 318 | Peptidase S16 domain containing protein | ATP binding [GO:0005524]; ATP-dependent peptidase activity [GO:0004176]; serine-type endopeptidase activity [GO:0004252]; protein catabolic process [GO:0030163] |
| HCOI_00209700 | -2.15 | 140 | Heat shock protein Hsp20 domain containing protein | |
| HCOI_00090500 | -2.14 | 593 | Uncharacterized protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021] |
| HCOI_01522400 | -2.14 | 296 | Peptidase M12A domain containing protein | metalloendopeptidase activity [GO:0004222] |
| HCOI_01953600 | -2.14 | 150 | Protein F10E7.6 | |
| HCOI_01262900 | -2.12 | 580 | BTB-PDZ and BTB Kelch-associated and Kelch repeat type 1 domain containing protein | |
| HCOI_00031900 | -2.11 | 204 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_02174400 | -2.11 | 346 | 7TM GPCR domain containing protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; G-protein coupled peptide receptor activity [GO:0008528] |
| HCOI_00296600 | -2.1 | 252 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_01772600 | -2.1 | 175 | Globin domain containing protein | heme binding [GO:0020037]; iron ion binding [GO:0005506]; oxygen binding [GO:0019825]; oxygen transporter activity [GO:0005344] |
| HCOI_01152300 | -2.08 | 617 | DNA-directed RNA polymerase subunit (EC 2.7.7.6) (Fragment) | DNA binding [GO:0003677]; DNA-directed RNA polymerase activity [GO:0003899]; transcription, DNA-templated [GO:0006351] |
| HCOI_00927000 | -2.06 | 187 | Protease inhibitor 14 domain containing protein | extracellular space [GO:0005615]; peptidase activity [GO:0008233] |
| HCOI_00272400 | -2.06 | 594 | Uncharacterized protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; ATP binding [GO:0005524]; ATPase activity, coupled to transmembrane movement of substances [GO:0042626] |
| HCOI_02055300 | -2.06 | 407 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_01440300 | -2.05 | 351 | Protease inhibitor 14 domain containing protein | extracellular space [GO:0005615]; peptidase activity [GO:0008233] |
| HCOI_01791600 | -2.05 | 426 | Bromodomain transcription factor and Transcription factor TH1D domain containing protein | |

| | | | | |
|---------------|-------|-----|---|--|
| HCOI_00724000 | -2.05 | 134 | Uncharacterized protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021] |
| HCOI_00709500 | -2.04 | 168 | Uncharacterized protein | extracellular region [GO:0005576] |
| HCOI_00651500 | -2.03 | 449 | SCP extracellular domain containing protein | |
| HCOI_01272800 | -2.03 | 185 | Apyrase domain containing protein | |
| HCOI_00437500 | -2.02 | 160 | Uncharacterized protein | calcium ion binding [GO:0005509]; pyrophosphatase activity [GO:0016462] |
| HCOI_02130500 | -2.02 | 216 | Peptidase C13 domain containing protein | GPI-anchor transamidase complex [GO:0042765]; GPI-anchor transamidase activity [GO:0003923]; peptidase activity [GO:0008233]; attachment of GPI anchor to protein [GO:0016255] |
| HCOI_01295900 | -2.02 | 237 | Metridin SIK toxin domain containing protein | |
| HCOI_01166100 | -2.01 | 619 | Semaphorin CD100 antigen and Plexin domain containing protein | |
| HCOI_00971500 | -2.01 | 488 | Major facilitator superfamily MFS-1 domain containing protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021] |
| HCOI_00849700 | -2.01 | 264 | Uncharacterized protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; transmembrane transport [GO:0055085] |
| HCOI_00716400 | -2 | 254 | Peptidase M12A domain containing protein | metalloendopeptidase activity [GO:0004222] |

C. Up-regulated in MHco10(CAVR) vs MHco3(ISE)

| Gene ID | log2 fold D.E. | Length | Protein names | Gene ontology (GO) |
|---------------|----------------|--------|---|--|
| HCOI_00418900 | 5.87 | 417 | Uncharacterized protein (Fragment) | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; extracellular ligand-gated ion channel activity [GO:0005230] |
| HCOI_01337900 | 4 | 174 | Uncharacterised kinase D1044.1 domain containing protein | kinase activity [GO:0016301] |
| HCOI_02000700 | 3.6 | 260 | Uncharacterized protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021] |
| HCOI_01022300 | 3.47 | 87 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_00456700 | 3.41 | 112 | Uncharacterized protein (Fragment) | |
| HCOI_02043300 | 3.29 | 315 | Uncharacterized protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021] |
| HCOI_01956700 | 3.25 | 219 | 7TM GPCR domain containing protein | |
| HCOI_00153600 | 3.25 | 365 | Protein FRPR-7 | |
| HCOI_02042500 | 3.18 | 181 | Uncharacterized protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021] |
| HCOI_01602500 | 3.14 | 217 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_01167300 | 3.13 | 764 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_00763200 | 3.07 | 143 | Uncharacterized protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021] |
| HCOI_01737000 | 3.05 | 362 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_00881700 | 3.04 | 310 | Protein F16C3.2 | |
| HCOI_01401500 | 2.97 | 300 | Protein K08E7.5, isoform c (Fragment) | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; G-protein coupled receptor activity [GO:0004930] |
| HCOI_00190000 | 2.96 | 69 | Stem cell self-renewal protein Piwi domain containing protein | |
| HCOI_00444600 | 2.92 | 359 | 7TM GPCR domain containing protein | |
| HCOI_01337800 | 2.91 | 151 | Uncharacterised kinase D1044.1 domain containing protein | kinase activity [GO:0016301] |
| HCOI_01226300 | 2.84 | 959 | Uncharacterized protein | aspartic-type endopeptidase activity [GO:0004190]; nucleic acid binding [GO:0003676]; zinc ion binding [GO:0008270] |
| HCOI_00412100 | 2.83 | 257 | Uncharacterized protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021] |
| HCOI_00803300 | 2.82 | 238 | Uncharacterized protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; RNA transmembrane transporter activity [GO:0051033]; dsRNA transport [GO:0033227] |
| HCOI_00867100 | 2.8 | 770 | C. briggsae CBR-SD-1 protein | |

| | | | | |
|---------------|------|------|---|--|
| HCOI_00441100 | 2.77 | 1000 | Lipoxygenase and Polycystin cation channel domain containing protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; calcium ion binding [GO:0005509] |
| HCOI_00471600 | 2.72 | 184 | Protein WD3D8.11 | carbohydrate binding [GO:0030246] extracellular space [GO:0005615]; peptidase activity [GO:0008233] integral component of membrane [GO:0016021] integral component of membrane [GO:0016021] |
| HCOI_01543000 | 2.67 | 284 | Galectin | |
| HCOI_00926900 | 2.62 | 291 | Protease inhibitor I4 domain containing protein | |
| HCOI_00513400 | 2.62 | 536 | Protein T0886.4 | |
| HCOI_00803400 | 2.62 | 201 | Uncharacterized protein | hyaluronate binding [GO:0016021] |
| HCOI_02172000 | 2.56 | 202 | Lipase domain containing protein | hydrolase activity [GO:0016787] |
| HCOI_00771000 | 2.55 | 813 | DvirG11255-PA | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021] RNA-directed DNA polymerase activity [GO:0003964] |
| HCOI_00057100 | 2.54 | 773 | EGF receptor domain containing protein | |
| HCOI_01696500 | 2.49 | 447 | RNA-directed DNA polymerase (Reverse Transcriptase) domain containing protein | |
| HCOI_01322900 | 2.46 | 80 | Uncharacterized protein | aminopeptidase activity [GO:0004177] |
| HCOI_00262600 | 2.45 | 166 | Microsomal aminopeptidase (Microsomal aminopeptidase H11) (Fragment) | |
| HCOI_01899200 | 2.43 | 625 | Serine/threonine-protein phosphatase [EC 3.1.3.16] | calcium ion binding [GO:0005509]; iron ion binding [GO:0005506]; manganese ion binding [GO:0030145]; phosphoprotein phosphatase activity [GO:0004721]; detection of stimulus involved in sensory perception [GO:0050906] |
| HCOI_00665300 | 2.43 | 171 | Uncharacterized protein | lipid binding [GO:0008289] |
| HCOI_01706200 | 2.42 | 724 | C8N-PQN-46 protein | |
| HCOI_01106200 | 2.41 | 833 | Serine-rich adhesin for platelets family | |
| HCOI_02043200 | 2.4 | 289 | Protein OSR-1 | |
| HCOI_00919200 | 2.39 | 349 | LBP/BP/CETP family domain-containing protein | lipid binding [GO:0008289] |
| HCOI_02051200 | 2.39 | 194 | Protein ZK675.4 | |
| HCOI_01840000 | 2.39 | 104 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_00040300 | 2.36 | 371 | Protein CYN-17, isoform a | |
| HCOI_00919100 | 2.35 | 196 | Protein CO6G1.1, isoform a | lipid binding [GO:0008289] |
| HCOI_02098400 | 2.34 | 280 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_00441800 | 2.34 | 112 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_01776700 | 2.34 | 210 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_00162900 | 2.33 | 525 | LGC-55, Ligand-gated chloride channel (Neurotransmitter-gated ion-channel ligand-binding and Neurotransmitter-gated ion-channel transmembrane region domain containing protein) | cell junction [GO:0030054]; integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; plasma membrane [GO:0005886]; synapse [GO:0045202]; extracellular ligand-gated ion channel activity [GO:0005230] |
| HCOI_00180600 | 2.33 | 148 | Uncharacterized protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021] |
| HCOI_00137800 | 2.31 | 71 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_01958000 | 2.28 | 386 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_02039400 | 2.26 | 1527 | Immunoglobulin I-set domain containing protein (Fragment) | |
| HCOI_00260400 | 2.26 | 223 | Protein T05A7.1 | carbohydrate binding [GO:0030246] |
| HCOI_00394900 | 2.25 | 841 | Selectin-like protein (Fragment) | |
| HCOI_01492900 | 2.24 | 427 | BTB-POZ and BTB Kelch-associated and Kelch repeat type 1 domain containing protein | |
| HCOI_02042400 | 2.24 | 467 | Transporter | |
| HCOI_00930900 | 2.23 | 261 | ELL-associated factor domain containing protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; neurotransmitter:sodium symporter activity [GO:0005328] ELL-EAF complex [GO:0032783]; regulation of transcription, DNA-templated [GO:0006355] |

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|---------------|------|-----|--|---|
| HCOI_02167300 | 2.23 | 124 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_01901700 | 2.2 | 401 | Transcription factor jumonji domain containing protein | |
| HCOI_01226200 | 2.19 | 583 | Integrase domain containing protein | nucleic acid binding [GO:0003676]; DNA integration [GO:0015074] |
| HCOI_01140400 | 2.18 | 67 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_00293100 | 2.18 | 459 | Armadillo/beta-catenin-like repeat family | |
| HCOI_00582100 | 2.17 | 476 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_00980400 | 2.17 | 326 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_01825500 | 2.16 | 193 | Nucleolar protein 10 (Fragment) | |
| HCOI_02042900 | 2.16 | 565 | Transporter | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; neurotransmitter:sodium symporter activity [GO:0005328] |
| HCOI_01438100 | 2.15 | 430 | Uncharacterized protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021] |
| HCOI_01428100 | 2.15 | 277 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_01590000 | 2.14 | 83 | Uncharacterized protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021] |
| HCOI_00881600 | 2.14 | 358 | Nematode cuticle collagen and Collagen triple helix repeat domain containing protein | collagen trimer [GO:0005581]; integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; structural constituent of cuticle [GO:0042302] |
| HCOI_01621500 | 2.13 | 380 | Amino acid transporter domain containing protein (Fragment) | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021] |
| HCOI_00260300 | 2.12 | 120 | Parasitic stage specific protein 1 | |
| HCOI_01516900 | 2.12 | 216 | Uncharacterized protein (Fragment) | mitochondrion [GO:0005739]; double-stranded DNA binding [GO:0003690]; regulation of transcription, DNA-templated [GO:0006355] |
| HCOI_00696400 | 2.12 | 119 | DNA-directed RNA polymerase subunit | nucleus [GO:0005730]; DNA-directed RNA polymerase activity [GO:0003899]; nucleic acid binding [GO:0003676]; zinc ion binding [GO:0008270]; transcription, DNA-templated [GO:0006351] |
| HCOI_00295200 | 2.12 | 252 | Glycoside hydrolase domain containing protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; lyszyme activity [GO:0003796]; carbohydrate metabolic process [GO:0005975]; cell wall macromolecule catabolic process [GO:0016998]; peptidoglycan catabolic process [GO:0009253] |
| HCOI_00088800 | 2.11 | 683 | Ion transport domain containing protein | voltage-gated calcium channel complex [GO:0005891]; voltage-gated calcium channel activity [GO:0005245] |
| HCOI_00408700 | 2.11 | 393 | Ion transport 2 domain containing protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; potassium channel activity [GO:0005267] |
| HCOI_00769700 | 2.1 | 682 | Solute carrier organic anion transporter family member | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; plasma membrane [GO:0005886]; transporter activity [GO:0005215]; ion transport [GO:0006811] |
| HCOI_00385800 | 2.1 | 640 | Uncharacterized protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021] |
| HCOI_01545500 | 2.09 | 266 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_00767800 | 2.09 | 437 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_01169000 | 2.07 | 498 | Uncharacterized protein (Fragment) | membrane [GO:0016020]; ATP binding [GO:0005524]; ATPase activity [GO:0016887] |
| HCOI_01255000 | 2.06 | 368 | UDP-glucuronosyltransferase (EC 2.4.1.17) | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; glucuronosyltransferase activity [GO:0015020]; metabolic process [GO:0008152] |
| HCOI_00446300 | 2.06 | 495 | Kinesin-like protein | microtubule [GO:0005874]; ATP binding [GO:0005524]; microtubule motor activity [GO:0003777]; microtubule-based movement [GO:0007018] |
| HCOI_01162700 | 2.05 | 152 | Galectin (Fragment) | carbohydrate binding [GO:0030246] |
| HCOI_01411000 | 2.05 | 94 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_00655600 | 2.05 | 110 | Zinc finger domain containing protein | zinc ion binding [GO:0008270] |

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|---------------|------|-----|---|---|
| HCOI_00792100 | 2.05 | 485 | 7TM GPCR domain containing protein (Fragment) | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; G-protein coupled receptor activity [GO:0004930] |
| HCOI_01429500 | 2.04 | 466 | Protein R09E10.6 | |
| HCOI_00606600 | 2.03 | 202 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_01881900 | 2.03 | 608 | TWIK family of potassium channels protein 7 | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; potassium channel activity [GO:0005267] |
| HCOI_01642000 | 2.03 | 729 | Protein M28.8 | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021] |
| HCOI_01932100 | 2.02 | 150 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_01984100 | 2.01 | 324 | 7TM GPCR domain containing protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; sensory perception of chemical stimulus [GO:0007606] |

D. Down-regulated in MHco10(CAVR) vs MHco3(5E)

| Gene ID | log2 fold D.E. | Length | Protein names | Gene ontology (GO) |
|---------------|----------------|--------|---|---|
| HCOI_01253600 | -4.74 | 313 | Uncharacterized protein | nucleus [GO:0005634] |
| HCOI_00719200 | -3.8 | 289 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_00593400 | -3.47 | 96 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_00007300 | -3.36 | 418 | Uncharacterized protein | ribosome [GO:0005840] |
| HCOI_01204900 | -3.31 | 112 | Ribosomal protein S32 domain containing protein | |
| HCOI_00221000 | -3.31 | 113 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_01540300 | -3.29 | 207 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_01514600 | -3.17 | 147 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_01996700 | -3.13 | 137 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_01997300 | -3.1 | 137 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_01294600 | -3.02 | 246 | Uncharacterized protein | metal ion binding [GO:0046872] |
| HCOI_00893400 | -2.97 | 463 | Zinc finger domain containing protein | extracellular space [GO:0005615]; peptidase activity [GO:0008233] |
| HCOI_00621300 | -2.94 | 352 | Protease inhibitor 14 domain containing protein | |
| HCOI_00905000 | -2.92 | 186 | Protein VAP-1, isoform a | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; extracellular ligand-gated ion channel activity [GO:0005230] |
| HCOI_00938300 | -2.91 | 386 | Uncharacterized protein (Fragment) | |
| HCOI_00463000 | -2.89 | 804 | Uncharacterised kinase D1044.1 domain containing protein | kinase activity [GO:0016301] |
| HCOI_00360200 | -2.89 | 135 | 15 kDa excretory/secretory protein | |
| HCOI_01137800 | -2.89 | 376 | Actin actin domain containing protein | ATP binding [GO:0005524] |
| HCOI_00694600 | -2.86 | 135 | EF hand domain containing protein | calcium ion binding [GO:0005509] |
| HCOI_00684000 | -2.85 | 250 | Glycoprotein-N-acetylglactosamine | membrane [GO:0016020]; galactosyltransferase activity [GO:0008378]; protein glycosylation [GO:0006486] |
| HCOI_01170600 | -2.82 | 405 | Beta-lactamase-related domain containing protein | |
| HCOI_01497600 | -2.74 | 230 | Uncharacterized protein (Fragment) | |
| HCOI_01615000 | -2.71 | 137 | p15 | |
| HCOI_01240800 | -2.71 | 136 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_01388800 | -2.7 | 84 | Protein TAG-307 | |
| HCOI_01021400 | -2.69 | 195 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_00589900 | -2.68 | 294 | UDP-glucuronosyl UDP-glucosyltransferase domain containing protein (Fragment) | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; transferase activity, transferring hexosyl groups [GO:0016758]; metabolic process [GO:0008152] |
| HCOI_00271700 | -2.66 | 200 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_00450400 | -2.64 | 475 | Uncharacterized protein | |

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|---------------|-------|------|---|---|
| HCOI_00296600 | -2.64 | 252 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_00171700 | -2.61 | 215 | SCP extracellular domain containing protein | extracellular region [GO:0005576] |
| HCOI_00026600 | -2.61 | 284 | Elongation of very/long chain fatty acids protein (EC 2.3.1.199) (Very-long-chain 3-oxoacyl-CoA synthase) | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; transferase activity [GO:0016740]; fatty acid biosynthetic process [GO:0006633] |
| HCOI_02033000 | -2.6 | 329 | Peptidase A1 domain containing protein | aspartic-type endopeptidase activity [GO:0004190] |
| HCOI_01584300 | -2.59 | 484 | Protein-tyrosine phosphatase domain containing protein | protein tyrosine phosphatase activity [GO:0004725] |
| HCOI_00524200 | -2.58 | 346 | Peptidase C1A domain containing protein | cysteine-type peptidase activity [GO:0008234] |
| HCOI_01248100 | -2.58 | 272 | Collagen triple helix repeat domain containing protein | collagen trimer [GO:0005581] |
| HCOI_00437500 | -2.55 | 160 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_00621200 | -2.55 | 132 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_02033100 | -2.53 | 394 | Peptidase A1 domain containing protein | aspartic-type endopeptidase activity [GO:0004190] |
| HCOI_02130500 | -2.52 | 216 | Peptidase C13 domain containing protein | GPi-anchor transamidase complex [GO:0042765]; GPi-anchor transamidase activity [GO:0003923]; peptidase activity [GO:0008233]; attachment of GPi anchor to protein [GO:0016255] |
| HCOI_00214700 | -2.51 | 93 | Endoglin CD105 antigen domain containing protein | |
| HCOI_01771500 | -2.5 | 101 | Nematode insulin-related peptide domain containing protein | |
| HCOI_02060300 | -2.5 | 575 | BRICHOS domain containing protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021] |
| HCOI_00620700 | -2.49 | 188 | Glutathione peroxidase | glutathione peroxidase activity [GO:0004602]; response to oxidative stress [GO:0006979] |
| HCOI_02107900 | -2.48 | 146 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_00915200 | -2.47 | 165 | Heat shock protein Hsp20 domain containing protein | metal ion binding [GO:0046872]; oxidoreductase activity [GO:0016491] |
| HCOI_01868700 | -2.45 | 254 | Tyrosinase domain containing protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021] |
| HCOI_00090500 | -2.45 | 593 | Uncharacterized protein | heme binding [GO:0020037]; iron ion binding [GO:0005506]; oxygen binding [GO:0019825]; oxygen transporter activity [GO:0005344] |
| HCOI_01772500 | -2.44 | 175 | Globin domain containing protein | extracellular space [GO:0005615]; peptidase activity [GO:0008233] |
| HCOI_00927000 | -2.43 | 187 | Protease inhibitor 14 domain containing protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021] |
| HCOI_01306000 | -2.4 | 271 | Aquaporin-10 | nucleic acid binding [GO:0003676]; nucleotide binding [GO:0000166] |
| HCOI_01667300 | -2.39 | 226 | Venom allergen/ancyclostoma secreted protein-like | |
| HCOI_00919400 | -2.36 | 183 | SH2 motif domain containing protein | |
| HCOI_01798700 | -2.35 | 87 | RNA recognition motif domain containing protein | |
| HCOI_00031900 | -2.35 | 204 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_00514900 | -2.35 | 137 | 15 kDa excretory/secretory protein | |
| HCOI_01772600 | -2.33 | 175 | Globin domain containing protein | heme binding [GO:0020037]; iron ion binding [GO:0005506]; oxygen binding [GO:0019825]; oxygen transporter activity [GO:0005344] |
| HCOI_00839100 | -2.33 | 144 | Activation associated secreted protein | |
| HCOI_01262900 | -2.33 | 580 | BTB-P0Z and BTB Kelch-associated and Kelch repeat type 1 domain containing protein | |
| HCOI_00359200 | -2.29 | 76 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_00915300 | -2.29 | 136 | Heat shock protein Hsp20 domain containing protein | |
| HCOI_01387700 | -2.29 | 342 | Uncharacterized protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021] |
| HCOI_01202200 | -2.27 | 502 | Protein Y5AG11A.1 | |
| HCOI_00223400 | -2.23 | 1169 | Uncharacterized protein (Fragment) | |
| HCOI_00696100 | -2.22 | 128 | RNA polymerase Rpb6 domain containing protein | DNA-directed RNA polymerase II, core complex [GO:0005665]; DNA binding [GO:0003677]; DNA-directed RNA polymerase activity [GO:0003899]; transcription, DNA-templated [GO:0006351] |
| HCOI_01953600 | -2.22 | 150 | Protein F10E7.6 | |

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|---------------|-------|------|---|--|
| HCOI_01996600 | -2.21 | 137 | 15 kDa excretory/secretory protein | |
| HCOI_02003500 | -2.21 | 120 | Uncharacterized protein | metallopeptidase activity [GO:0008237] |
| HCOI_00862400 | -2.19 | 112 | Metalloprotease I | extracellular region [GO:0005576] |
| HCOI_01449200 | -2.19 | 449 | SCP extracellular domain containing protein | extracellular space [GO:0005615] |
| HCOI_01615200 | -2.19 | 139 | Transhyretin domain containing protein | |
| HCOI_01456200 | -2.19 | 134 | Uncharacterized protein (Fragment) | extracellular region [GO:0005576] |
| HCOI_00388200 | -2.18 | 420 | SCP extracellular domain containing protein | myosin complex [GO:0016459]; ATP binding [GO:0005524]; motor activity [GO:0003774] |
| HCOI_00330700 | -2.18 | 567 | Myosin head and IQ calmodulin-binding region and Myosin tail domain containing protein (Fragment) | extracellular region [GO:0005576] |
| HCOI_00651500 | -2.17 | 449 | SCP extracellular domain containing protein | membrane [GO:0016020]; metalloendopeptidase activity [GO:0004222]; cell adhesion [GO:0007155] |
| HCOI_00480800 | -2.17 | 554 | Peptidase M8 domain containing protein | RNA-directed DNA polymerase activity [GO:0003964] |
| HCOI_00338800 | -2.15 | 238 | RNA-directed DNA polymerase (Reverse transcriptase) domain containing protein | |
| HCOI_00927100 | -2.13 | 698 | Protein C3SD10.8 (Fragment) | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; protein phosphatase inhibitor activity [GO:0004864]; regulation of phosphoprotein phosphatase activity [GO:0043666]; regulation of signal transduction [GO:0009966] |
| HCOI_00700300 | -2.13 | 344 | Proteasome component region PCI domain containing protein (Fragment) | proteasome complex [GO:0000502] |
| HCOI_00229700 | -2.12 | 288 | Uncharacterized protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021] |
| HCOI_00722000 | -2.12 | 270 | Dere(GG20951-PA | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; neurotransmitter:sodium symporter activity [GO:0005328] |
| HCOI_01669100 | -2.12 | 102 | Ubiquitin-related modifier 1 homolog | cytosol [GO:0005829]; protein urmylation [GO:0032447]; RNA thio-modification [GO:0034227]; RNA wobble uridine modification [GO:0002098] |
| HCOI_01152400 | -2.12 | 139 | Protein Y105C5B.5 | |
| HCOI_01985600 | -2.11 | 144 | Uncharacterized protein | extracellular region [GO:0005576] |
| HCOI_01190400 | -2.11 | 218 | SCP extracellular domain containing protein | extracellular region [GO:0005576] |
| HCOI_00791700 | -2.09 | 220 | SCP extracellular domain containing protein | metallopeptidase activity [GO:0008237] |
| HCOI_01659400 | -2.09 | 112 | Metalloprotease | |
| HCOI_00719300 | -2.08 | 318 | Uncharacterized protein | metalloendopeptidase activity [GO:0004222]; zinc ion binding [GO:0008270]; molting cycle, collagen and cuticulin-based cuticle [GO:0018996] |
| HCOI_00823700 | -2.08 | 571 | Metalloendopeptidase (EC 3.4.24.-) | |
| HCOI_00697000 | -2.07 | 427 | FAD-dependent pyridine nucleotide-disulphide oxidoreductase domain containing protein | oxidoreductase activity [GO:0016491] |
| HCOI_01300800 | -2.07 | 290 | Short-chain dehydrogenase reductase SDR domain containing protein | |
| HCOI_00385500 | -2.06 | 298 | Nematode cuticle collagen and Collagen triple helix repeat domain containing protein | collagen trimer [GO:0005581]; integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; structural constituent of cuticle [GO:0042302] |
| HCOI_01546000 | -2.06 | 95 | Uncharacterized protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021] |
| HCOI_01272200 | -2.05 | 1471 | Uncharacterized protein (Fragment) | |
| HCOI_02009200 | -2.05 | 136 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_00709500 | -2.05 | 168 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_02183800 | -2.04 | 219 | Venom allergen/ancyclostoma secreted protein-like | |
| HCOI_01205600 | -2.03 | 188 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_00462900 | -2.03 | 409 | Uncharacterised kinase D1044.1 domain containing protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; kinase activity [GO:0016301] |

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|---------------|-------|-----|---|---|
| HCOI_01772400 | -2.03 | 175 | Globin domain containing protein | heme binding [GO:0020037]; iron ion binding [GO:0005506]; oxygen binding [GO:0019825]; oxygen transporter activity [GO:0005344] |
| HCOI_00955600 | -2.03 | 517 | Sodium:dicarboxylate symporter domain containing protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; sodium:dicarboxylate symporter activity [GO:0017153] |
| HCOI_01994500 | -2.02 | 204 | Uncharacterized protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021] |
| HCOI_01984700 | -2.02 | 89 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_01772000 | -2.02 | 297 | Globin domain containing protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; heme binding [GO:0020037]; oxygen binding [GO:0019825]; oxygen transporter activity [GO:0005344] |
| HCOI_01986300 | -2.01 | 215 | SCP extracellular domain containing protein | extracellular region [GO:0005576] |
| HCOI_01451800 | -2.01 | 107 | Collagen triple helix repeat domain containing protein (Fragment) | collagen trimer [GO:0005581] |
| HCOI_01600100 | -2 | 188 | SCP extracellular domain containing protein | |

E. Up-regulated in MHco4(WRS) vs MHco10(CAVR)

| Gene ID | log2 fold D.E. | Length | Protein names | Gene ontology (GO) |
|---------------|----------------|--------|---|--|
| HCOI_02045800 | 3.48 | 209 | Tau-tubulin kinase 1 | ATP binding [GO:0005524]; protein kinase activity [GO:0004672] |
| HCOI_00385500 | 3.03 | 298 | Nematode cuticle collagen and Collagen triple helix repeat domain containing protein | collagen trimer [GO:0005581]; integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; structural constituent of cuticle [GO:0042302] |
| HCOI_01236700 | 2.87 | 185 | Zinc finger domain containing protein | |
| HCOI_01204900 | 2.84 | 112 | Ribosomal protein S32 domain containing protein | ribosome [GO:0005840] |
| HCOI_00374400 | 2.79 | 174 | ATP synthase assembly factor F1MC1 domain containing protein | |
| HCOI_02011700 | 2.75 | 137 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_00454600 | 2.74 | 102 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_00355800 | 2.71 | 293 | Uncharacterized protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021] |
| HCOI_00655600 | 2.62 | 110 | Zinc finger domain containing protein | zinc ion binding [GO:0008270] |
| HCOI_01248100 | 2.58 | 272 | Collagen triple helix repeat domain containing protein | collagen trimer [GO:0005581] |
| HCOI_01952000 | 2.56 | 106 | RES511p | |
| HCOI_01155600 | 2.53 | 83 | Uncharacterized protein | ATP binding [GO:0005524]; DNA binding [GO:0003677]; DNA topoisomerase type II (ATP-hydrolyzing) activity [GO:0003918]; DNA topological change [GO:0006265] |
| HCOI_00621300 | 2.52 | 352 | Protease inhibitor 14 domain containing protein | extracellular space [GO:0005615]; peptidase activity [GO:0008233] |
| HCOI_00682700 | 2.45 | 488 | DNA primase domain containing protein | DNA primase activity [GO:0003896] |
| HCOI_01710300 | 2.44 | 1981 | Dynein heavy chain and ATPase associated with various cellular activities domain containing protein | ATP binding [GO:0005524]; ATPase activity [GO:0016887]; microtubule motor activity [GO:0003777]; microtubule-based movement [GO:0007018] |
| HCOI_02014700 | 2.4 | 212 | DNA RNA helicase domain containing protein (Fragment) | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; helicase activity [GO:0004386] |
| HCOI_00892400 | 2.36 | 371 | C-type lectin and Fibrinogen domain containing protein | carbohydrate binding [GO:0030246] |
| HCOI_00214700 | 2.25 | 93 | Endoglin CD105 antigen domain containing protein | |
| HCOI_01629200 | 2.23 | 1377 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_01788300 | 2.22 | 942 | Serine threonine protein kinase-related domain containing protein | ATP binding [GO:0005524]; protein kinase activity [GO:0004672] |
| HCOI_02076500 | 2.21 | 108 | DNA-directed RNA polymerase domain containing protein | DNA binding [GO:0003677]; DNA-directed RNA polymerase activity [GO:0003899]; transcription, DNA-templated [GO:0006351] |
| HCOI_02040900 | 2.19 | 118 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_00938300 | 2.17 | 386 | Uncharacterized protein (Fragment) | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; extracellular ligand-gated ion channel activity [GO:0005230] |

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|---------------|------|-----|--|---|
| HCOI_01095600 | 2.14 | 246 | Uncharacterised protein family UPF0005 domain containing protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021] |
| HCOI_00630400 | 2.14 | 121 | Transcription initiation factor IID domain containing protein | transation initiation factor activity [GO:0003743]; transcription from RNA polymerase II promoter [GO:0006366] |
| HCOI_02003600 | 2.13 | 178 | Protein VAP-1, isoform a | transferase activity [GO:0016740] |
| HCOI_00663500 | 2.11 | 347 | CoA-transferase family III domain containing protein | nucleosome [GO:0000786]; nucleus [GO:0005634]; DNA binding [GO:0003677]; nucleosome assembly [GO:0006334] |
| HCOI_00779000 | 2.08 | 183 | Histone H1 H5 domain containing protein | |
| HCOI_00007400 | 2.07 | 141 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_01469100 | 2.03 | 128 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_00087600 | 2.02 | 242 | Snf7 domain containing protein | intracellular [GO:0005622]; vacuolar transport [GO:0007034] |
| HCOI_00259000 | 2.01 | 217 | Ribosomal protein L6E domain containing protein | ribosome [GO:0005840]; structural constituent of ribosome [GO:0003735]; translation [GO:0006412] |
| HCOI_01330000 | 2.01 | 249 | Phosphomannomutase (EC 5.4.2.8) | cytoplasm [GO:0005737]; phosphomannomutase activity [GO:0004615]; GDP-mannose biosynthetic process [GO:0009298] |

F. Down-regulated in *Mhco4*(WRS) vs *Mhco10*(CAVR)

| Gene ID | log2 fold D.E. | Length | Protein names | Gene ontology (GO) |
|---------------|----------------|--------|---|--|
| HCOI_00418900 | -5.39 | 417 | Uncharacterized protein (Fragment) | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; extracellular ligand-gated ion channel activity [GO:0005230] |
| HCOI_01255000 | -4.38 | 368 | UDP-glucuronosyltransferase (EC 2.4.1.17) | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; glucuronosyltransferase activity [GO:0015020]; metabolic process [GO:0008152] |
| HCOI_00438300 | -3.49 | 842 | Mammalian uncoordinated homology 13 and C2 calcium-dependent membrane targeting domain containing protein | |
| HCOI_00400400 | -3.45 | 131 | CBM-SPP-18 protein | |
| HCOI_00446300 | -3.3 | 495 | Kinesin-like protein | microtubule [GO:0005874]; ATP binding [GO:0005524]; microtubule motor activity [GO:0003777]; microtubule-based movement [GO:0007018] |
| HCOI_01492900 | -3.06 | 427 | BTB-PoZ and BTB Kelch-associated and Kelch repeat type 1 domain containing protein | |
| HCOI_00673300 | -3.03 | 134 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_00376200 | -2.86 | 656 | DNA-binding RFX domain containing protein | DNA binding [GO:0003677]; regulation of transcription, DNA-templated [GO:0006355] |
| HCOI_00441100 | -2.75 | 1000 | Lipoxygenase and Polycystin cation channel domain containing protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; calcium ion binding [GO:0005509] |
| HCOI_00471600 | -2.74 | 184 | Protein WD3D8.11 | |
| HCOI_00260400 | -2.65 | 223 | Protein T05A7.1 | |
| HCOI_00190000 | -2.64 | 69 | Stem cell self-renewal protein Piwi domain containing protein | |
| HCOI_00676600 | -2.62 | 506 | Bestrophin domain containing protein | |
| HCOI_00502000 | -2.55 | 90 | Uncharacterized protein (Fragment) | |
| HCOI_01378500 | -2.54 | 503 | C. briggsae CBR-VAB-8 protein | |
| HCOI_01602100 | -2.54 | 282 | 7TM GPCR and RNA-directed DNA polymerase (Reverse transcriptase) domain containing protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; RNA-directed DNA polymerase activity [GO:0003964] |
| HCOI_00153600 | -2.53 | 365 | Protein FRPR-7 | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021] |
| HCOI_00456700 | -2.52 | 112 | Uncharacterized protein (Fragment) | |
| HCOI_00513400 | -2.5 | 536 | Protein T08B6.4 | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021] |

| | | | | |
|---------------|-------|------|--|--|
| HCOI_01337900 | -2.5 | 174 | Uncharacterised kinase D1044.1 domain containing protein | kinase activity [GO:0016301] |
| HCOI_01401500 | -2.44 | 300 | Protein K08E7.5, isoform c (Fragment) | |
| HCOI_01442300 | -2.42 | 564 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_00608600 | -2.41 | 646 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_01543000 | -2.28 | 284 | Galectin | carbohydrate binding [GO:0030246] |
| HCOI_01438100 | -2.25 | 430 | Uncharacterized protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021] |
| HCOI_01191500 | -2.23 | 274 | SCP extracellular domain containing protein | |
| HCOI_00441900 | -2.22 | 101 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_01950100 | -2.2 | 434 | CRE-TWK-11 protein | |
| HCOI_01753400 | -2.19 | 279 | S1 domain containing protein | translation initiation factor activity [GO:0003743] |
| HCOI_00622400 | -2.18 | 1250 | Uncharacterized protein (Fragment) | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; ATP binding [GO:0005524]; ATPase activity, coupled to transmembrane movement of substances [GO:0042626] |
| HCOI_01052400 | -2.16 | 224 | Protease inhibitor 18 domain containing protein | peptidase activity [GO:0008233] |
| HCOI_02167300 | -2.15 | 124 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_01932100 | -2.14 | 150 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_01845500 | -2.14 | 91 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_00354000 | -2.12 | 99 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_01956700 | -2.12 | 219 | 7TM GPCR domain containing protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021] |
| HCOI_01602300 | -2.11 | 380 | C2 calcium-dependent membrane targeting domain containing protein | membrane [GO:0016020]; synaptic vesicle [GO:0008021]; exocytosis [GO:0006887] |
| HCOI_00441800 | -2.1 | 112 | Uncharacterized protein | |
| HCOI_02172000 | -2.09 | 202 | Lipase domain containing protein | hydrolase activity [GO:0016787] |
| HCOI_01602200 | -2.07 | 335 | 7TM GPCR domain containing protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021] |
| HCOI_01899200 | -2.06 | 625 | Serine/threonine-protein phosphatase [EC 3.1.3.16] | calcium ion binding [GO:0005509]; iron ion binding [GO:0005506]; manganese ion binding [GO:0030145]; phosphoprotein phosphatase activity [GO:0004721]; detection of stimulus involved in sensory perception [GO:0050906] |
| HCOI_01760800 | -2.06 | 332 | Uncharacterized protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021]; mitochondrial rion [GO:0005739]; mitochondrial electron transport, NADH to ubiquinone [GO:0006120] |
| HCOI_00366600 | -2.06 | 137 | Uncharacterized protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021] |
| HCOI_01597200 | -2.06 | 431 | C1c domain containing protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021] |
| HCOI_01602500 | -2.05 | 217 | Uncharacterized protein | integral component of membrane [GO:0016021] |
| HCOI_00084900 | -2.05 | 319 | Serine threonine protein kinase-related domain containing protein | ATP binding [GO:0005524]; protein serine/threonine kinase activity [GO:0004674] |
| HCOI_00040300 | -2.03 | 371 | Protein CVN-17, isoform a | |
| HCOI_01256400 | -2.03 | 249 | Zinc finger protein | |
| HCOI_00792300 | -2.03 | 247 | Protein FOI1F1.3 (Uncharacterized protein) | |
| HCOI_01931900 | -2.02 | 501 | Tyrosine-protein kinase (EC 2.7.10.2) | ATP binding [GO:0005524]; non-membrane spanning protein tyrosine kinase activity [GO:0004715] |
| HCOI_01904900 | -2.01 | 179 | Galectin | carbohydrate binding [GO:0030246] |
| HCOI_01527500 | -2 | 364 | Sterile alpha motif SAM and Sterile alpha motif homology 2 and Toll-Interleukin receptor domain containing protein | signal transduction [GO:0007165] |

Figure 1.

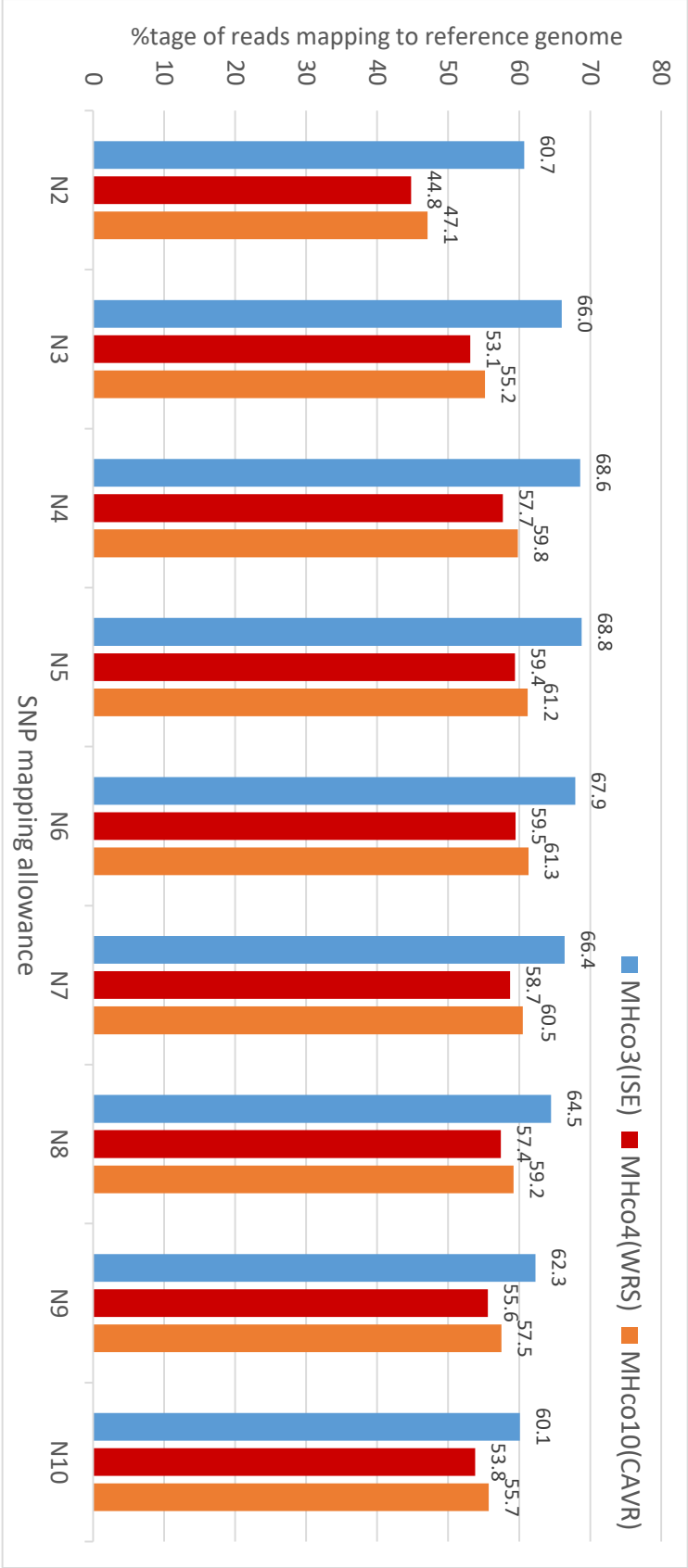


Figure 2

Figure 2

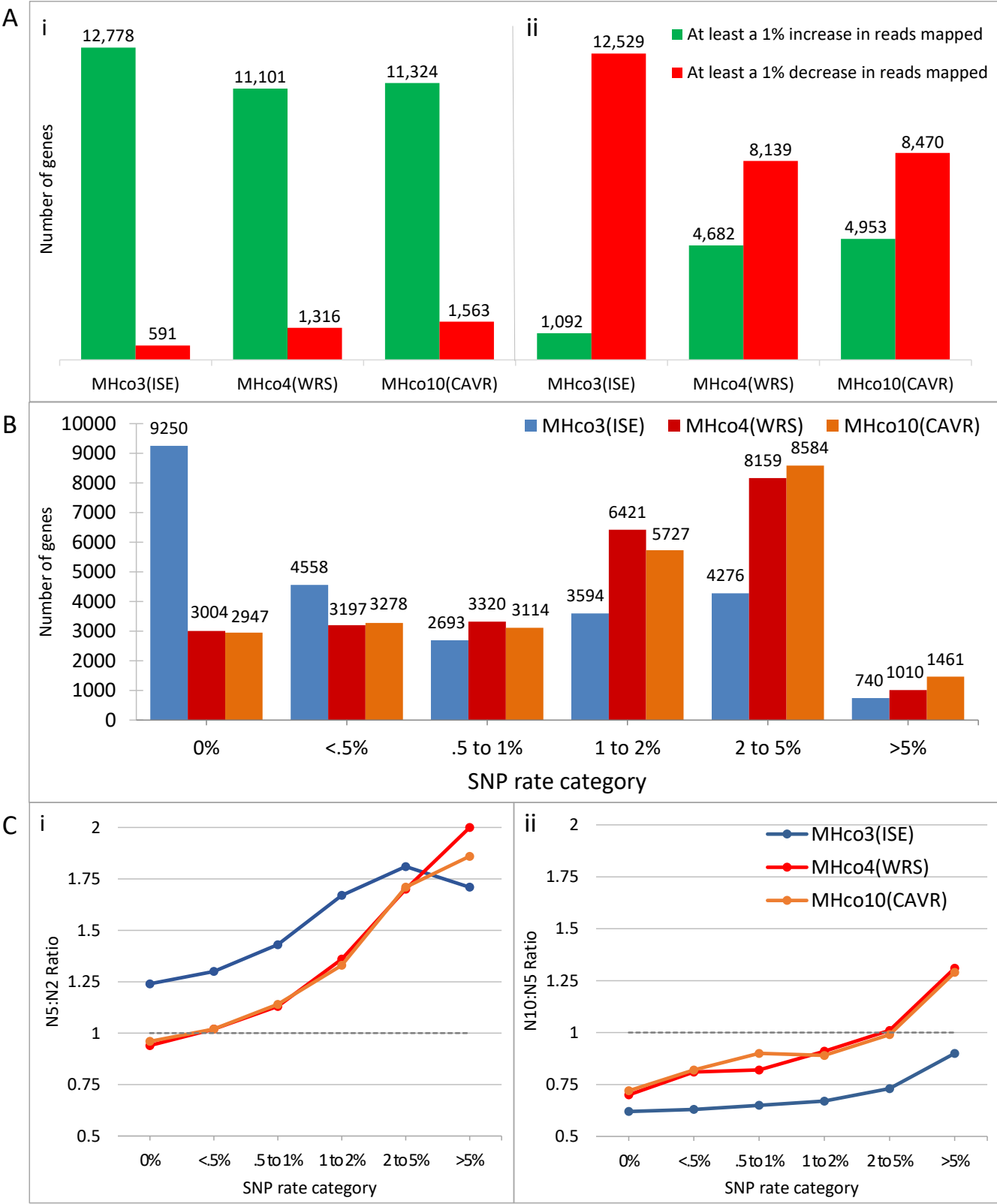


Figure 3

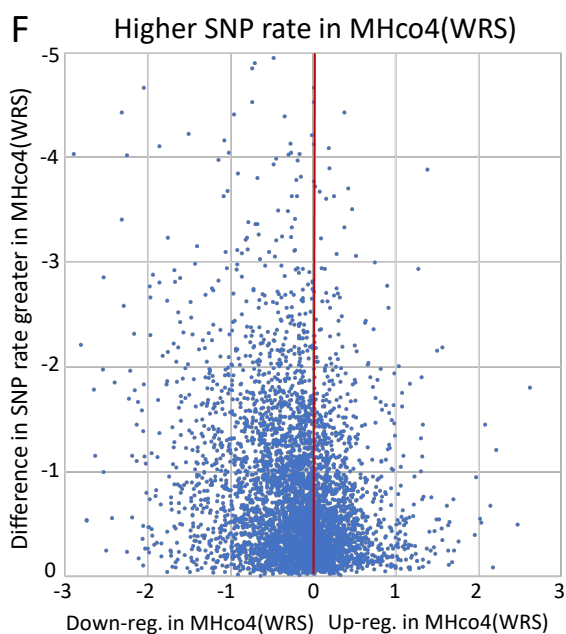
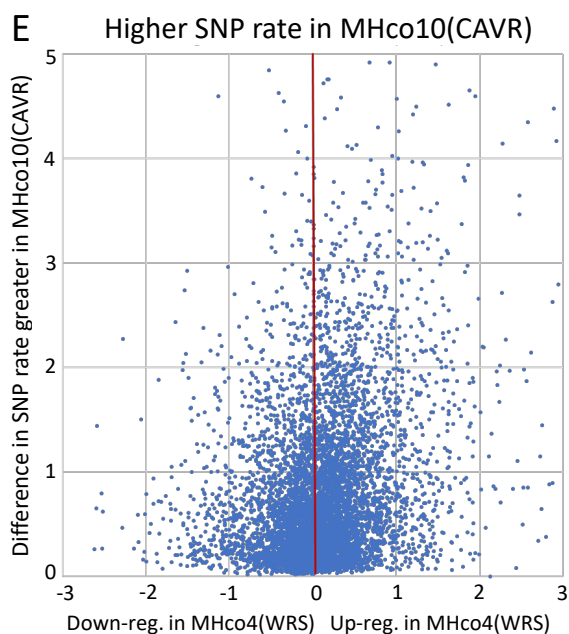
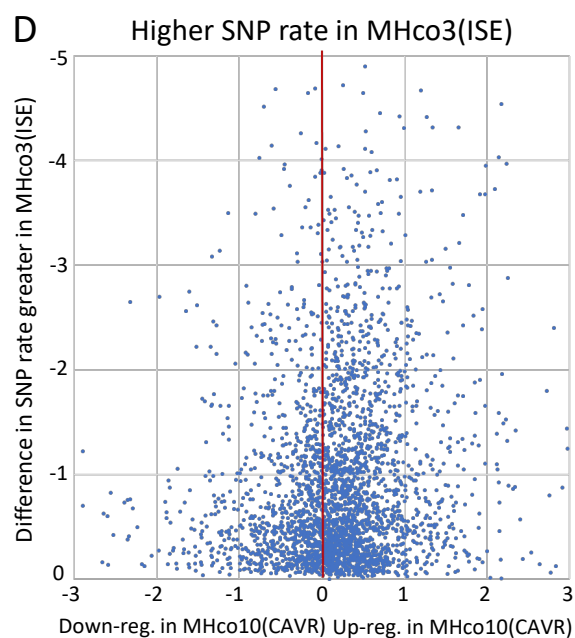
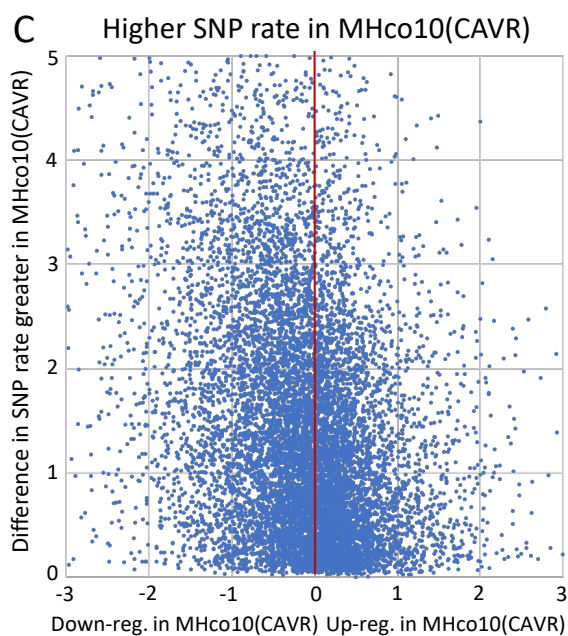
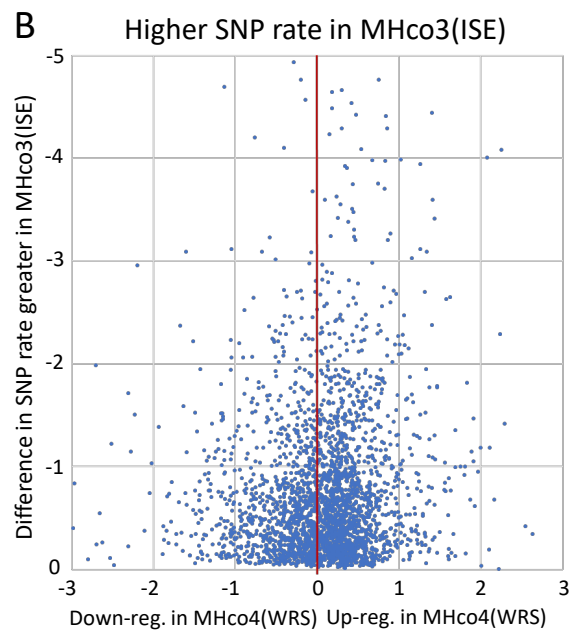
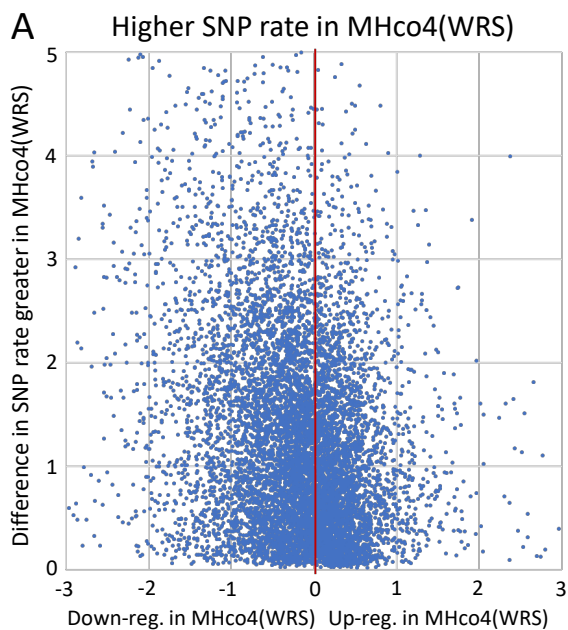


Figure 4

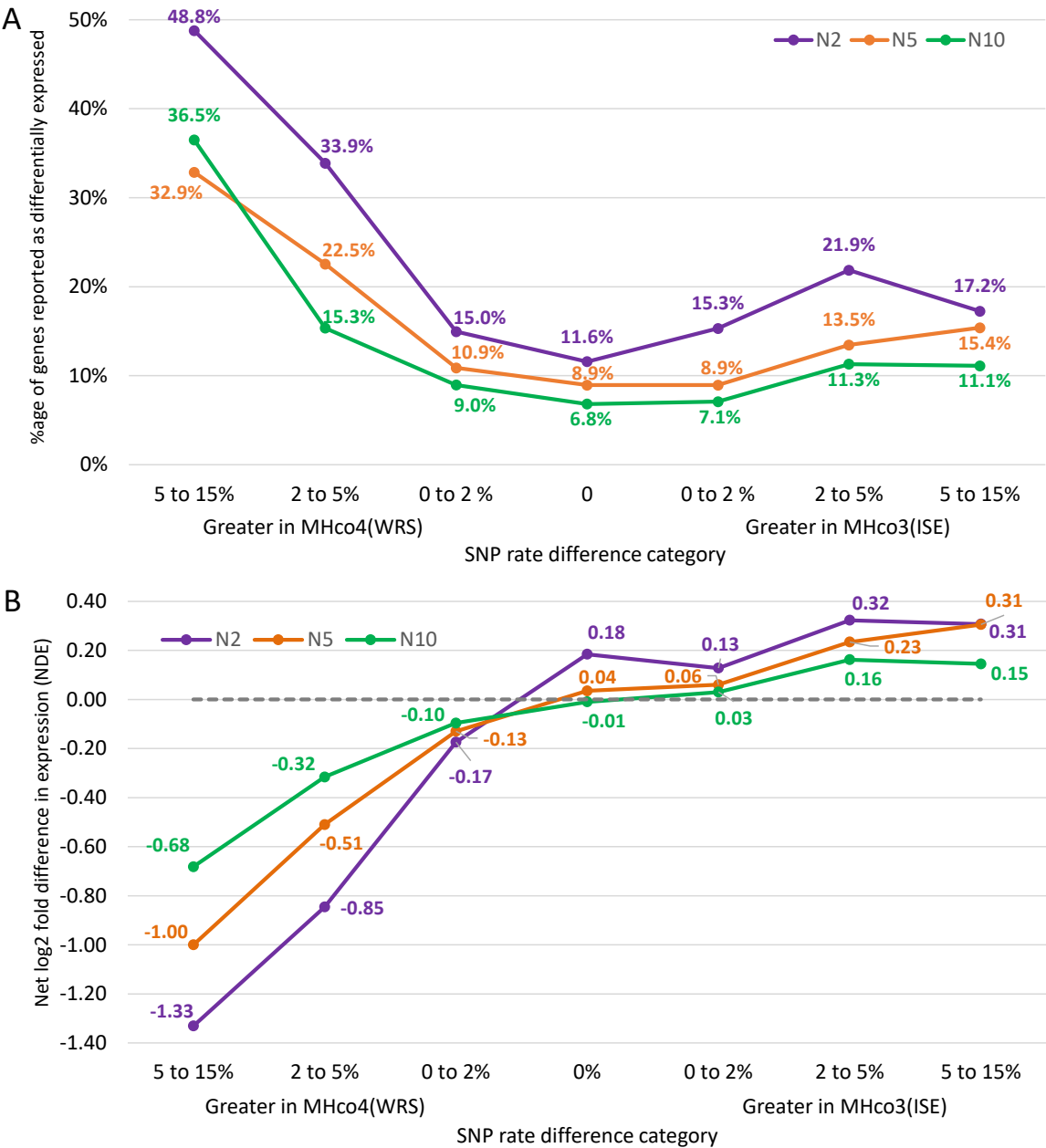
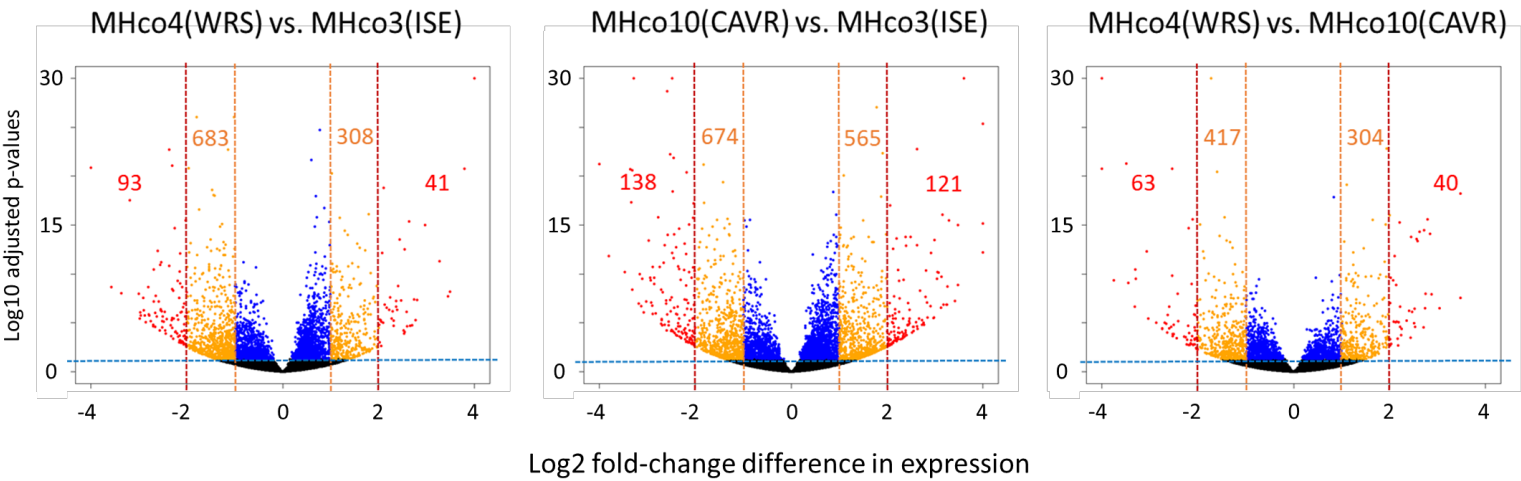
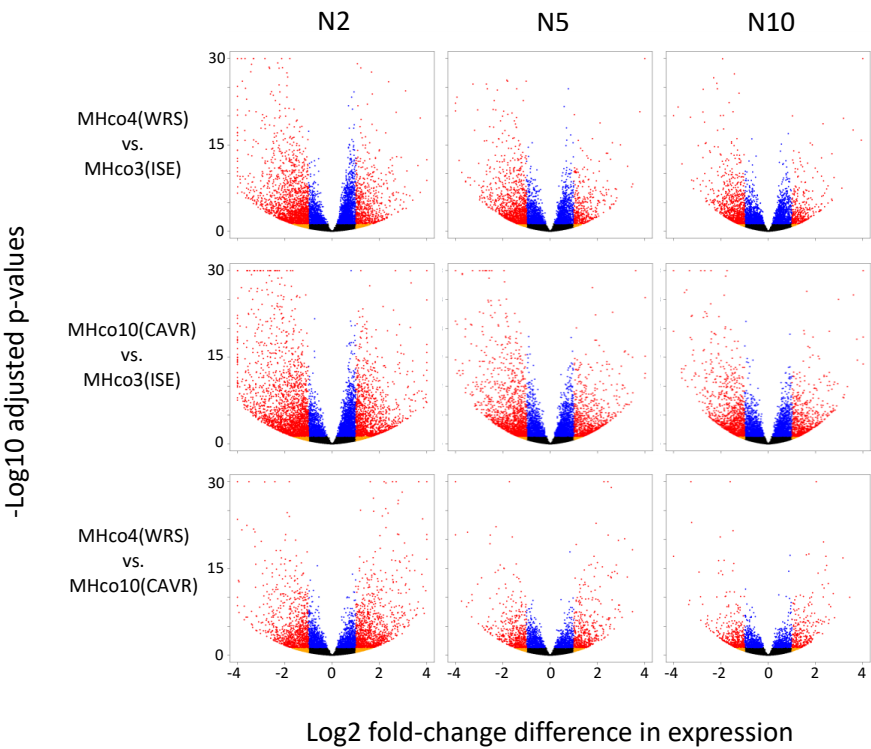


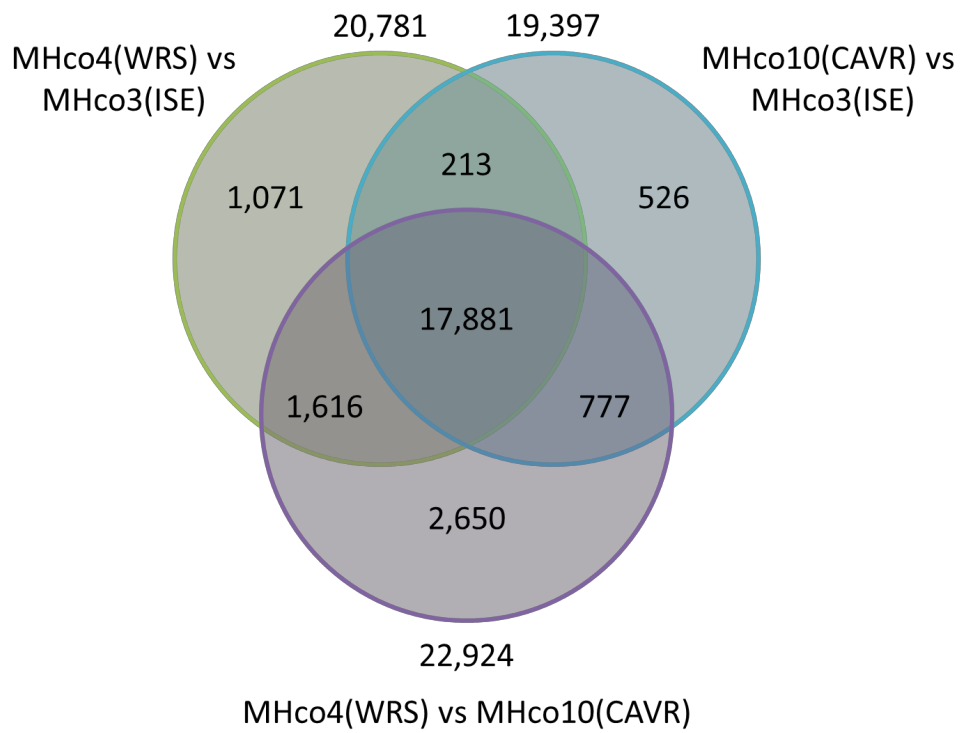
Figure 5



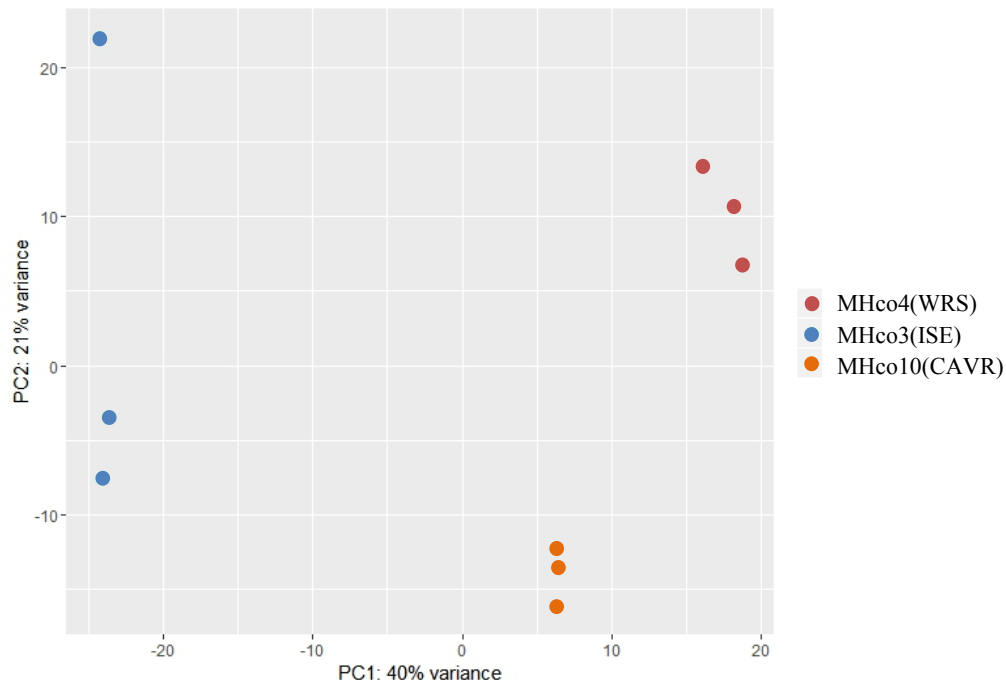
Supplementary Figure S1



Supplementary Figure S2

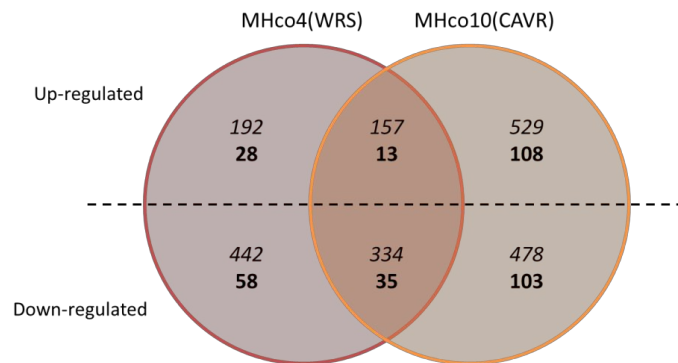


Supplementary Figure S3



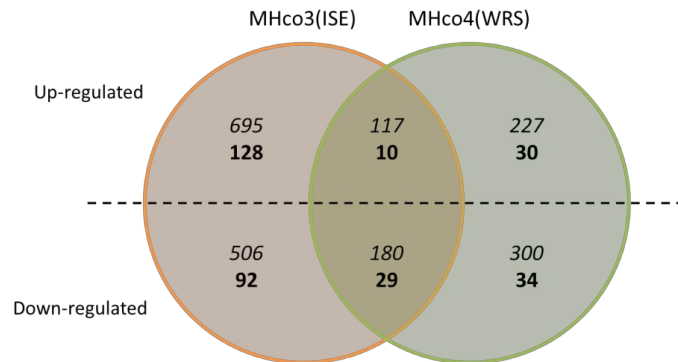
Supplementary Figure S4

A Number of differentially expressed genes relative to MHco3(ISE)



Number of differentially expressed genes relative to MHco10(CAVR)

B



C Number of differentially expressed genes relative to MHco4(WRS)

